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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Commandery

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

AND APPENDANT ORDERS

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA.

AT ITS

FIFTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE,

NEW ORLEANS,

FEBRUARY 15th, 1868, A. O. 750.

New Orleans:

ISAAC T. HINSON, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER, 27 COMMERCIAL PLACE.

1868.

Freemasons, Louisiana, Knights Templars.
Grand Commandery.
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND COMMANDERY

OF

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

AND APPENDANT ORDERS,

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA,

AT ITS

FIFTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE,

NEW ORLEANS,

February 15th, 1868, A. O. 750.

SIR FULGENCE RICAU.....R. E. GRAND COMMANDER.

SIR ALFRED E. BILLINGS.....E. GRAND RECORDER.



NEW ORLEANS:

ISAAC T. HINTON, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER, 27 COMMERCIAL PLACE.

1868.

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FIFTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

AND APPENDANT ORDERS,

OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

The R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS, OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at the Asylum of Orleans Commandery No. 3, Grand Lodge Hall, city of New Orleans, on Friday, February 14th, A. D. 1868, A. O. 750, at 12 o'clock, m., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SIR SAMUEL M. TODD..... | R. E. Grand Commander. |
| “ FULGENCE RICAU..... | V. E. Deputy Grand Commander. |
| “ JOSEPH P. HORNOR..... | E. Grand Generalissimo. |
| “ WM. R. WHITAKER..... | E. Grand Captain General |
| “ HENRY R. SWASEY..... | E. Grand Prelate. |
| “ WM. McDUFF..... | E. Grand Senior Warden. |
| “ T. A. BARTLETTE..... | E. Grand Junior Warden. |
| “ F. H. KNAPP..... | as E. Grand Treasurer. |
| “ GUS. SONTAG..... | E. Grand Recorder. |
| “ ALFRED E. BILLINGS..... | E. Grand Standard Bearer. |
| “ JAMES STAFFORD..... | E. Grand Sword Bearer. |
| “ Z. M. PIKE..... | as E. Grand Warder. |
| “ STEPHEN S. SELLECK..... | E. Grand Captain of the Guards. |

Also, SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS, P. Grand Commander.

“ W. P. COLEMAN, P. G. Captain General.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns:

- SIR WILLIAM McDUFF, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1,
- “ GUS. SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2,
- “ THOMAS CRIPPS, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns then submitted the following Report, which was read and adopted:

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Credentials beg leave to report the following Sir Knights as entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery, as legal representatives:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Sir James Stafford, E. C., A. Brown, proxy; Sir Wm. McDuff, G., R. E. Diamond, proxy; F. H. Knapp, C. G., O. J. Donnella, proxy.

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Sir S. M. Todd, E. C., J. B. Scot, proxy; J. A. Stevenson, G.; J. R. Turck, C. G.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Sir W. C. Driver, E. C.; Wm. R. Whitaker, G., Geo. H. King, proxy; Jas. E. McBeth, C. G.

Courteously submitted,

WM. McDUFF,
THOMAS CRIPPS,
G. SONTAG.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS No. 1.

JACQUES DeMOLAY No. 2.

ORLEANS No. 3.

The R. E. Grand Commander then delivered the following

ADDRESS:

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Louisiana:

E. SIR KNIGHTS:

Before entering upon the duties of this our Fifth Annual Conclave, let us, as Christian Knights, unite in prayer and thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father, for His divine protection during the past year; that, notwithstanding the fearful pestilence which has raged over our beloved land, carrying off thousands of our fellow citizens, so few of our fraters of this jurisdiction have fallen victims to its ravages, and that we are again permitted to assemble in our Asylum, without loss of numbers.

It is a source of great pleasure to all who bear aloft the symbol of our faith, to know that their brother Sir Knights, whose swords have been drawn in the same holy cause, are not unmindful of the dangers and privations which have beset the paths of Southern Knighthood, but have stepped nobly forth and afforded timely relief in the hour of adversity and destitution. Our warmest thanks are eminently due, in this connection, to the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, for its liberal donation in aid of the members of our order in the Southern States. In June last, I received a portion of this sum—two hundred dollars—through Em. Sir Knight Alfred Creagh, the distinguished Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, with the request that it be applied to the relief of such poor and suffering Sir Knights as might be in sickness or want. One-half of this sum I bestowed upon two worthy and venerable Knights, who were then suffering on the bed of sickness, and have since died; the remaining portion I transmitted to Sir Knight and Bro. Henry Hamburger, W. M. of Louisiana Relief Lodge No. 1, knowing that many calls were being continually made upon its charities, and that its funds were nearly exhausted; requesting Sir Knight Hamburger to act as the Almoner of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania in disbursing the remainder of the funds so nobly contributed, I append hereto the correspondence upon this matter with Em. Sir Knight Creagh and Louisiana Relief Lodge No. 1.

In this jurisdiction, peace and harmony has prevailed without interruption; the friendship and concord existing between the members of our respective Commanderies has been a subject of remark and congratulation on the part of visiting Sir Knights. This condition of things in our jurisdiction should be hailed by us with pride and satisfaction; long may it continue, and long may the Sir Knights of Louisiana stand shoulder to shoulder, guarding our sacred banner and principles against the attacks of open and avowed foes, and also against those of professed friends. During the year, I have visited and enjoyed the hospitalities of each of our commanderies, and was present at the installation of all their officers. I am truly happy to be able to bear testimony to the zeal manifested by the officers and members of each.

Our order has assumed a high rank among the Masons of Louisiana, and the greatest care should be taken to prevent the admission of any except the good and true, and to exclude all who cannot properly understand and fully appreciate the sublime teachings inculcated in our Asylums.

I have been called upon, in only a few instances, to exercise my authority

in dispensing with the time required in our regulations between the reception and action in petitions for the orders. When these petitions have been in favor of companions residing in the country parishes, and who were well and favorably known in the city, I have thought proper to grant dispensations, when the exigencies of the case seemed to require it, but in no instance to dispense with the regulation requiring a period of six months to elapse after a companion has received the Royal Arch degree before his petition can be received for Knightly orders. It is with me a matter of congratulation and pride that our Grand Commandery has imposed these wholesome restraints, instead of permitting the hurrying of newly exalted Royal Arch Masons rapidly through the Knightly orders without proper notice to our fraters and due inquiry into their characters; and I should deeply regret any attempt to change or set aside these very proper regulations.

In August last I received from E. Sir Alfred Creagh several copies of his History of Templar Masonry in Pennsylvania, for Eminent Sir Knights of Louisiana, and one copy for the Grand Commandery of this State. This work was prepared by direction of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, being not only a history of the order of Knights Templar in the Keystone State, but also containing much valuable historical information respecting the organization of the order and of its introduction into this country, and of great interest to all who love and cherish the principles of our noble and magnanimous order. The receipt of these copies was duly acknowledged at the time.

In view of the fact that the Grand Lodge of the State has established a Masonic library, to which all Masons have access, I suggest to you the propriety of giving to it such aid as we can in the way of the donation of all books that may belong to or come into the possession of the Grand Commandery, and especially of copies of proceedings of our sister Grand Commanderies. The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State several years ago donated money and books for this object, and it is but right and proper that we should follow the example so worthily set before us. The directors of the Grand Lodge library would, without doubt, gladly receive such aid as we could afford, and appropriate a certain portion of its shelves for the reception of Knightly histories and proceedings.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence have examined the printed proceedings of our sister Grand Commanderies, and will present to you a report of much that will prove interesting and instructive, and the opinions of distinguished Sir Knights upon many of the questions of the day. In some jurisdictions] it is boldly proposed to abolish entirely the Order of the Red Cross, as being a Hebrew degree, and not in unison with the Christian Order of Knights Templar. Others as stoutly uphold the Red Cross as being a component part of American Templar Masonry, and as being particularly interesting for reasons known best to Templars, and shewn by the asserted fact that Red Cross Councils are always better attended than the meetings in the Commandery of Knights Templar.

Pennsylvania advocates the changing of the whole ritual, as practiced in this country, and the adoption, instead, of the English work, claiming this latter to be the only true and the original work of Templar Masonry; whilst

Massachusetts upholds the present ritual, of which she was the originator, and claims for it, that it is more in accordance with the spirit of the age, and as being infinitely more interesting than the long ago abandoned English work.

The question of drill is still being discussed in many of our sister jurisdictions. Here we have experienced but little trouble on this account, and whilst we have never formally adopted any particular tactics, have used, so far, one similar, in most respects, to that which was exemplified before the Grand Encampment of the United States at its last conclave.

All of these questions, and others in which, as Knights Templar, we feel interested, will doubtless be considered at the approaching meeting of the Grand Encampment at St. Louis.

In our sister Grand Commandery of Missouri, I regret to perceive that an attack has been made upon the A. and A. Scottish Rite, upon grounds which, to us of Louisiana,—who have lived in daily communion with our brethren of the Scottish Rite, and where the order of Knights Templar and the A. A. Rite have existed side by side for the last fifty years,—appears somewhat strange and insufficient. The positions taken by R. E. Sir Knight Gourley are not such as we can endorse or justify, and I sincerely hope that no other Grand Commandery will take part in his quarrel, for us in Louisiana to do so, would be suicidal to the best interests of our beloved order. Let us, rather, endeavor to live in perfect accord with all Masons, and only use our good swords when our citadel is in danger, when our principles are assailed, or our rightful jurisdiction is invaded. We, who have lived so long and so harmoniously beside our Masonic brethren of the A. A. Scottish Rite, know it and them too well to believe that there is from that quarter any danger whatever to Temple Masonry.

I feel it to be my duty to call your attention to the fact that there is due to this Grand Commandery, from the estate of Sir Hosea Edwards, formerly Grand Treasurer, the sum of ninety-seven dollars and fifty cents, being the remaining balance in his hands at the time of his death. I am informed that if proper steps were taken this money can easily be recovered.

I cannot close this brief address without again expressing my grateful acknowledgments for the many courtesies extended to me by the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction, and also my gratification at the prosperous condition of our order in Louisiana. True, we have no commanderies outside of the city of New Orleans, but the time is not far distant when petitions will be made for the establishment of commanderies in several of the country parishes. Many applications are being made for the orders of Knighthood by companions residing in the country, as well as by those residing in the city. It only remains for us to select the very *best* material from that presented to our choice.

In the confident hope that our present conclave may be conducted in a spirit of harmony, and tend to the advancement of our beloved order, I leave you to your deliberations.

Office of the GRAND RECORDER OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR of Pennsylvania, }
 WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON COUNTY, PA.,
 June 26th, A. D. 1867, A. O. 749, A. O. E. P. 70. }

To SIR SAM'L. MANNING TODD, R. E. Grand Commander of Louisiana:

Right Eminent Sir: At the Fourteenth Annual Conclave of Knights Templar of the State of Pennsylvania, held in the city of Pittsburg, June 12th, 1867, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the sum of eight hundred dollars be forwarded, in sums of two hundred dollars each, to the Grand Commanderies of the States of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi, to be distributed by the Grand Commanders of each of said States, among the families of destitute Templars within said States.

In accordance with these instructions, I have the honor to forward to you, as the Grand Commander of Louisiana, a draft on New York for the sum of two hundred dollars (amount appropriated to your State) to be distributed as the resolution contemplates. It is our earnest prayer that the wants of all Templars and their families be relieved by our warm-hearted Sir Knights, whose mission is charity and pure benevolence.

Courteously and fraternally yours,

ALFRED CREAGH, LL. D., 33rd
 Grand Recorder.

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE, }
 THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA.
 New Orleans, June 3d, 1867. }

SIR ALFRED CREAGH, LL. D., Gr. Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, Washington, Pa.:

Eminent Sir: Your esteemed favor of 26th June, enclosing a draft upon the Fourth National Bank of New York for two hundred dollars has been received. This sum, so generously donated by the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, shall be faithfully distributed in accordance with the intentions of the donors. As a Knight Templar, I feel proud of the noble action of our fraters in the Keystone State in providing for the wants of the poor and suffering Sir Knights in our midst, and I can assure you that I feel greatly honored in being selected as their Almoner in this Christian and Knightly work.

With sentiments of the highest personal regards, I am

Very truly and courteously yours,

SAML. M. TODD,
 Grand Commander Knights Templar in La.

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE, }
 THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF LA.
 New Orleans, Oct. 10th, 1868. }

HENRY HAMBURGER, Esq., W. M. Louisiana Relief Lodge No. 1:

W. Sir and Brother: Enclosed herewith find check for one hundred dollars, being the remaining balance of a sum sent to me by the Grand Commandery of

Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, for the relief of distressed and indigent Masons in the South, a portion having been applied for the benefit of suffering Knights Templar, I have concluded to send the remainder to you for the purpose of assisting the excellent and praiseworthy body over which you preside, in its noble work of charity, believing that organization to be the best medium for properly administering relief to the worthy poor and suffering of our Order, and for carrying out the humane wishes of our brethren of Pennsylvania.

Fraternally Yours,

SAM'L M. TODD,

Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Louisiana,

HALL OF LOUISIANA RELIEF LODGE, No. 1, }
NEW ORLEANS, NOV. 10TH, 1867. }

SAMUEL M. TODD, Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana;

Eminent Sir and Bro.: I have the honor to address you in behalf of Louisiana Relief Lodge, No. 1, in pursuance to a resolution passed at their regular meeting of Nov. 3d, and thank you for the kind expression of feeling evinced towards our Lodge in their labor of dispensing charity to those who may, by force of circumstances, need fraternal assistance, with accompanying donation of (\$100) one hundred dollars, received by you from the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Pennsylvania. Will you, in behalf of Louisiana Relief Lodge No. 1, convey to them our sincere thanks for their liberal donation, more so at a period when the devastating hand of Time was sweeping over our beloved city, leaving mourning and sadness behind, it better enabling us to console and relieve the distressed by more than mere words. Again tendering to you our thanks, and through you to the body who so kindly made you its agent,

I remain, fraternally yours,

FRED. HOLYLAND,

Sec'y of La. Relief Lodge No. 1.

On motion of E. Sir Joseph P. Hornor, the address was ordered spread upon the minutes and published with the proceedings.

The E. Grand Treasurer submitted the following statement of the receipts and disbursements in his office, accompanied by vouchers for all payments made by him.

On motion of E. Sir Joseph P. Hornor, the report was adopted, and the vouchers ordered cancelled.

GRAND COMMANDERY K. T., State of Louisiana,

in account with EMANUEL BLESSEY:

1867.

February 15—Balance last account rendered.....\$344 00

1868.

February 14—Cash received from Grand Recorder..... 80 00

1867. \$424 00

February 15—Paid order No. 6.....\$ 10 00

“ “ 7..... 30 00

“ “ 8..... 5 00

April 11, “ 9..... 135 00

“ 10..... 35 00

215 00

1868.

February 14—Cash balance on hand.....\$209 00

Courteously submitted,

EMANUEL BLESSEY,

New Orleans, Feb. 14, 1868.

Grand Treasurer.

The E. Grand Recorder then submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted:

NEW ORLEANS, February 14, 1868.

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

In accordance with the instructions given me at the last annual conclave, I had printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of the Grand Commandery. These have been distributed—twenty-five to each commandery under your jurisdiction, and two to each Grand Commandery of which I had any knowledge, and two to every Masonic periodical.

All the commanderies of this jurisdiction have made correct returns and paid their dues. Annexed hereto is my account current, which I submit for your approval.

Courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

G. SONTAG, Grand Recorder,

in account with the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

1868.

Dr.

January 17—To Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.....\$65 00

“ 22—To Orleans Commandery No. 3..... 5 00

February 11—To Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1..... 10 00

\$80 00

1868.

Cr.

February 14—By Sir E. Blessey, Grand Treasurer... 80 00

Sir James B. Scot then read the following Report of the Com-

mittee on Foreign Correspondence, which was received and ordered published with the proceedings:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully beg leave to report that they have received, from the Grand Recorder, the proceedings of the following Grand Commanderies. viz:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| ALABAMA, 1866, | MISSOURI, 1867, |
| CALIFORNIA, 1866, | NEW YORK, 1866, 1867, |
| CONNECTICUT, 1867, | OHIO, 1867, |
| ILLINOIS, 1866, | PENNSYLVANIA, 1867, |
| INDIANA, 1867, | TENNESSEE, 1866, 1867, |
| KENTUCKY, 1867, | TEXAS, 1867, |
| MAINE, 1867, | VERMONT, 1867, |
| MASSACHUSETTS and R. I., 1866, | VIRGINIA, 1867, |
| MICHIGAN, 1866, 1867, | WISCONSIN, 1867, |

which we proceed to notice in the order named.

ALABAMA.—The seventh annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Alabama was held in Montgomery, November 30, 1866, Sir R. F. Knott, Grand Commander, presiding, and five Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander, in a well written address, principally devoted to local matters, calls upon the Sir Knights to exemplify in their walk and conversation the principles inculcated in the ceremonies of our Order, and to aid in relieving the destitution which everywhere surrounds them. He states that at no period in the history of Templar Masonry in Alabama, "has the Order been more prosperous than at the present time." He also notices, in appropriate terms, the deaths of Sir W. B. Hubbard, P. G. Master of the Grand Encampment, and of Sir Hugh Parks Watson, Grand Treasurer. Suitable resolutions and a memorial page record the virtues of the latter, who was known throughout the land as "a wise and accomplished Freemason."

Sir A. J. Walker presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of fourteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1866 included, are reviewed in a very able and interesting manner. A dignified courtesy and a generous loyalty to the Grand Encampment pervade the whole report, and in noticing the opinions entertained by Iowa and Massachusetts, Sir Knight Walker says:

We recognize the duty of obedience to the behests of the Grand Encampment of the United States, as a result of our knightly vows, and of the obligations of our officers, and as an indispensable means of attaining uniformity of work in the United States. We sympathize with no resistance of authority which is not founded in reason, and consistent with organic law.

The public devotional service, reported at the sixteenth triennial session of the Grand Encampment, was recommended to the subordinates for adoption. The "Drill" of Sir Orrin Welch, and the costume prescribed by the Grand Encampment, were adopted. The proceedings are got up in a very neat style, and reflect credit upon the taste of the Grand Recorder.

The eighth annual conclave was held in Montgomery, November 29, 1867,

Sir R. F. Knott, Grand Commander, presiding, and six Commanderies represented.

After the Grand Commandery was opened, a procession was formed, and the Sir Knights repaired to the First Baptist Church, where, after uniting in the public devotional exercises of the Order, an excellent address was delivered by the Grand Prelate.

The Grand Commander, in his address, alludes in appropriate terms to the death of the Deputy Grand Commander, Sir James B. Harrison, who was assassinated near Selma, August 17, 1867. He acknowledges the receipt of \$200 from the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, to be applied to the relief of the destitute families of Knights Templar, and, after recounting his official acts and visits, says:

At no time in the history of Templar Masonry in this State has it been more prosperous or successful in the accomplishment of good than the past year. Many of the best and purest of the land have been admitted to our sacred asylum. Many more are seeking admission. Therefore, let me again caution you; be watchful, be cautious, guard well the portals to our sacred asylum, suffer none to pass the ordeal of the ballot to whom you cannot point as ornaments of society, whose hearts are ever ready and willing to aid in feeding the hungry, succoring the needy, clothing the naked, and binding up the wounds of the afflicted.

Sir Abram J. Walker again presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of fourteen Grand Commanderies, our own among the number, are reviewed in an able and courteous manner. The report abounds in judicious remarks, and in deprecating the sweeping charge of Sir Knight Owen, of California, that the spirit of hatred and revenge loomed out prominently in the proceedings of the Southern Masonic Grand Bodies during the war, Sir Knight Walker considers the statement "the result probably of a failure to examine the records." In relation to the degrees of R. and S. M., he says:

There is no principle or true Masonic policy which is consulted in making the degrees of Royal and Select Master necessarily preliminary to the degrees of Knighthood. If those degrees cannot stand on their own merits they should be permitted to expire. The accumulation of degrees in Masonry is not so valuable as to justify the imposition upon the Orders of Knighthood the burden of sustaining the Council degrees.

A committee was appointed to prepare a uniform code of by-laws for the government of subordinates, and a resolution adopted declaring that the R. and S. M. degrees are not necessarily prerequisites to, or qualifications for, the Orders of Knighthood.

Alabama has seven Commanderies, with a total membership of 227.

Sir R. F. Knott, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir E. M. Hastings, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

CALIFORNIA.—The ninth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of California was held in San Francisco, October 18, 1866, Sir Henry Holcombe Rhees, Grand Commander, presiding, and seven Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander, in a brief but excellent address, finds reason for congratulation in the restored harmony of the order throughout the whole

jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of the United States. After stating that no occasion had arisen for the exercise of any of the special powers reposed in him, Sir Knight Rhees adds:

Our statutes and laws are so plain and so well understood, the spirit manifested by our members so courteous, affable and knightly, that no decision of any disputed point has been called for, and no offence requiring discipline has been committed in our entire jurisdiction.

It is a pleasure to read such a record, and we hope it will ever remain bright and unsullied. The death of Sir William B. Hubbard, P. G. Master of the Grand Encampment, is feelingly alluded to in the address, and appropriately noticed by a special committee. The business transacted was of a local character, and possesses no general interest.

The Grand Recorder, Sir Lawrence C. Owen, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of the Grand Encampment and eighteen Grand Commanderies, including Louisiana for 1866, are reviewed in an able manner. In his notice of Missouri, he censures Sir Knight Gouley for displaying "a bitterness of feeling" towards those who differed with him "in regard to the struggle, now happily terminated." We are not called upon to defend Sir Knight Gouley, he is able enough to take care of himself—but we cannot permit the following to pass unnoticed:

No Masonic body North gave utterance to such intemperate language as is to be found in the proceedings of the rebellious States, nor can there be seen in any of their transactions that spirit of hatred and revenge which looms out so prominently in most of the publications of our Southern brethren during the war.

We do not see what good can result from raking up the ashes of the past, and have no taste for recrimination and strife, yet we must say that the above sweeping charge against the South is not sustained by facts. There were Masonic Grand Bodies in the South, those of our own State among the number, which deprecated the prostitution of Masonry to political purposes, and in whose transactions the spirit of hatred and revenge finds no place. At the same time, it is not to be denied that many things were said during the war which were not in accordance with the teachings of Masonry, and utterly opposed to the divine precepts inculcated in our asylums. We have yet to learn, however, that this was confined to any one section. If the things then said cannot be blotted out of the book of the recording angel, we should at least strive to cover them over with the mantle of Masonic charity, and refrain from all allusions to them. Sir Knight Owen says: "Now, that the contest is over, let the good deeds performed on both sides be only remembered, and let all earnestly unite in endeavoring to restore the harmony and union of which all were once so proud." We agree with him in this, but it cannot be accomplished by penning such lines as we have quoted above.

In noticing an error in the statistical table appended to the report on Foreign Correspondence of the Maine Committee, Sir Knight Owen says:

Since the organization of the Grand Commandery of California, to the present date, not a single subordinate has failed to transmit its returns within the time prescribed by the statutes, and not one of these returns has as yet contained an error of any kind. They have been published each year, and an examination of them will show that every member borne at any time upon the roll of a subordinate can be accounted for.

California has seven Commanderies, with a total membership of 349.

Sir William M. Rundell was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Lawrence C. Owen re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

CONNECTICUT.—The annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut was held in Hartford, May 9, 1867, Sir Stiles D. Sperry, Deputy Grand Commander, presiding, and seven Commanderies represented.

The address of the R. E. Grand Commander, Sir John W. Paul, who was unable to attend, is well written and devoted to the inculcation of the sublime principles of our Order. After stating that there are among us those who "forsake the solemnity of the asylum for the business or pleasure of the outer world, and speak and live as though the Cross were a myth, the Resurrection a dream, and the Ascension a fable," he adds :

Sir Knights, we have enlisted in the army of Immanuel, we are clothed in His uniform, we have taken the oath of fealty to His cause. In every land, wherever the foot of man hath trod, we recognize our brethren, and in every language of earth's babbling tongue, we hear the pass-word of our fellow soldiers, who have, in harmony with ourselves, sworn to wage war against principalities and powers, and against spiritual wickedness, in all the multifarious phases in which it exhibits itself. Have we been true to these obligations? Are we guileless, in all points? Is there no wedge of gold, or Babylonish garment hid in the earth beneath our tent? Are there any in our midst who are profane, intemperate, licentious? Sir Knights, he who indulges in these, or similar vices, is no true Knight Templar, though he may have taken upon himself our vows, a hundred or a thousand times. If there is such an one among us, wearing the insignia of our Order, he is not "the right man in the right place." He should go back to the alphabet of Masonry. He should investigate afresh the first principles of the Royal Art, and learn that temperance is one of the cardinal virtues, and "should be the constant practice of every Mason," and that his first great duty is to God,—in never mentioning His name but with that reverential awe which is due from the creature to his Creator,—in imploring His aid in all laudable undertakings,—and in esteeming Him as the chief good."

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of that veteran in Masonry, Sir E. G. Storer, who we regret to learn has been in feeble health. It reviews briefly, but courteously, the proceedings of eighteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1867 included. Sir Knight Storer regrets that the proceedings of his Grand Commandery for 1866 failed to reach us, and says if we had read them we "would not have ventured the insinuation that 'Connecticut, in defiance of the constitution of the Grand Encampment,' insists upon certain degrees as a prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood." We have received the copy of the by-laws and regulations of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut forwarded to us by our friend Storer, and, having "disabused" ourselves of the opinion expressed in our previous report, acknowledge our error. Connecticut does not act in defiance of the constitution of the Grand Encampment, she only disregards a decision of its M. E. Grand Master, Sir B. B. French. From his address to the Grand Encampment in 1865, we extract the following:

To the question "whether it is proper to place in the by-laws of a Commandery a requirement that an applicant for the Orders should be a Royal and Select Master?" I replied thus: "I am very sure that my M. E. predecessor, Sir W. B. Hubbard, decided that question in the negative, but cannot find the decision. It has always been understood that the only test to which a candi-

date should be subjected is, that he is a Royal Arch Mason; and the certificate attached to the petition is always, as far as I have seen, that the applicant is a Royal Arch Mason (which is a requirement of our Grand Constitution). If we commence making innovations there is no telling where we shall stop. If the Royal and Select be required, we shall next have the A. and A. Rite, and so on.

My opinion is decided that it would be an improper innovation in the by-laws of any Commandery to require that the candidate should be a Royal and Select Master.

While upon this subject, it is proper that I should call the attention of this Grand Body to the fact that, long since I made the foregoing decision, the Grand Commandery of Connecticut so amended their by-laws as to require that every candidate within that jurisdiction should be a Royal and Select Master. Now as there are hundreds of Royal Arch Masons who have been made Knights Templar, who have never received the degrees of Royal and Select Master, such a requirement by any Grand Commandery is equivalent to an edict debarring a certain class of Templars from visiting the Commanderies within its jurisdiction. Such could not have been the intention of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut, as it would be unjust; and I know the magnanimous Fraters who compose that Grand Body too well to believe that they would do injustice to any one.

We regret the proceedings of Connecticut for 1866 failed to reach us, but we learn from the reports on Foreign Correspondence submitted to sister Grand Commanderies, that Sir F. J. Calhoun, the then R. E. Grand Commander, in his annual address to the Grand Commandery of Connecticut, after calling attention to the above decision of Grand Master French, argued in favor of expunging that portion of the by-laws of the Grand Commandery which makes the Royal and Select degrees a prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood. The subject was referred to a special committee, who reported adversely on the ground that if the R. and S. M. degrees were dispensed with as a prerequisite, the Councils would not be able to sustain themselves. It is proper, however, to add that visiting Sir Knights are not required to be in possession of these degrees—the rule applies only to candidates.

We notice Sir Knight Storer appends the cabalistic figures 32 to his name at the close of his report. In our opinion, they had better be kept where they belong—they are out of place in Templar Masonry.

The returns show seven Commanderies in this jurisdiction, with a total membership of 933.

Sir Stiles D. Sperry was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir E. G. Storer re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

GEORGIA.—We learn from the able report of Sir Knight Drummond, of Maine, that the Grand Commandery of Georgia held its annual conclave in April last, and that the proceedings as soon as published would be forwarded by the Grand Recorder, Sir Charles R. Anderson. Not having received a copy, we are unable to give an account of the doings on that occasion. Hoping for a more intimate acquaintance and an interchange of courtesies with the Sir Knights of Georgia, we extend to them a knightly greeting.

ILLINOIS.—The tenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Illinois was held in Chicago, October 23, 1866, Sir Henry Collings Ranney, Grand Commander, presiding, and fifteen Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is an able document. After return-

ing thanks to the Almighty for the manifold blessings bestowed, he proceeds to render an account of his stewardship. During the year he had constituted three new Commanderies, granted five and refused two dispensations for the formation of new ones, believing that in so doing he was promoting the welfare of our Order. Among the decisions reported by him, he reaffirmed the following by our lamented P. G. M. Hubbard:

Elections must be held at the time specified in the by-laws, nor is it competent for a majority to change the time of holding elections, save in the manner prescribed by the by-laws themselves.

By-laws, to be valid, must be approved by the superior body, and no amendment is valid until so approved.

To an inquiry whether three worthy R. A. Masons who had been raised in the Jewish faith, but did not practice its rites and ceremonies, could receive the Orders of Knighthood, he replied:

Sir Knights, this Order, we have been taught, is a Christian Order, founded upon the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues. In olden times, and at present in the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, it was and is held, as the first requisite for admission, that a candidate must believe in the Holy and Undivided Trinity. Unfortunately, when the present system of Templarism was cooked up by that illustrious Masonic inventor, Thomas Smith Webb, this requisition was abolished, and almost anybody can now take these Orders. How any man professing a faith in God, without believing in His only Son, our blessed Lord, our Saviour, Mediator and Intercessor, can take upon himself the vows of this Order of Knighthood, has always been a mystery to me. My decision was: "Ask them if they now profess Christianity? If they believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Saviour of man? If they cannot answer these questions in the affirmative they cannot enter our asylum. For no man can conscientiously promise to draw his sword in the defence of Christianity, unless he is a Christian himself, and a believer in the Divinity of its founder."

Sir Knight Ranney considers the practice of naming Commanderies after persons now living, or the place where located, a bad one. He says: "It has appeared to me somewhat singular that in selecting names for our new Commanderies, so little use has been made of the old and appropriate names to be found in the history of Knighthood;" and suggests that hereafter some appropriate designation be selected. This is a subject which merits more attention than it has yet received. With the bright galaxy of illustrious names which adorns the annals of our Order, we cannot admire the taste which passes over them to select designations which sound harshly to the ear of a true Templar.

The Grand Commander notices in appropriate terms the death of Sir W. B. Hubbard, P. G. Master of the Grand Encampment, and of Sir James H. Hibbard, P. D. Grand Commander. Suitable resolutions were adopted and a memorial page inscribed to the memory of the latter.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Sir A. S. Converse, and reviews in a courteous manner the proceedings of fifteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1866 included.

Charters for four new Commanderies were granted and one dispensation continued. Illinois has twenty-one Commanderies, with a membership of 978.

Sir George C. Lanphere was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir James H. Miles re-elected Grand Recorder.

INDIANA.—The thirteenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Indiana was held at Shelbyville, April 2, 1867, Sir Harvey G. Hazelrigg, M. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and ten Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander delivered a very interesting address, which also supplies the place of a report on Foreign Correspondence. The receipt of the proceedings of sixteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1866 included, are acknowledged. Alluding to the discussions on the subject of titles and nomenclature, Grand Commander Hazelrigg says: "These differences of opinion afford a pretty little field for the display of learning and ingenuity, and sometimes exhibit a fine specimen of wit and humor;" still he does not think it will "affect in the slightest degree, the efficacy, stability, or beauty of the Orders," whichever way the question may be settled. After considering the objections made in some quarters against the Templar funeral service, he concludes as follows:

A Knight Templar cannot be such without also being a Master Mason; but if it is his request that the Templar service be used at his funeral, instead of that of ancient craft Masonry, where is the conflict? None. In obedience to his request, the Sir Knights take charge of and conduct the ceremonies on the occasion; the Master Mason, as such, having no right to take any exceptions whatever, will not do so, nor would it, in my opinion, be proper for him to participate in the ceremonies. But, on the other hand, if the brother requests that the ceremonies of the Lodge shall be performed, the Lodge of which he was a member, or in whose jurisdiction the funeral is to take place, or in which he dies, (being a foreigner or a sojourner,) will take charge of and conduct the funeral, while Knights Templar, as such, can not and should not participate, but as Master Masons.

On the question of seniority between Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, he takes the position of a disinterested and impartial spectator, and when the question is settled, will courteously doff his chapeau to the victor. In regard to tactics and drill, he comes to the conclusion that "nothing beyond what is necessary to communicate the orders, teach the modes of recognition, and prove our right to participate in the practices of our Commanderies is necessary." He examines at length the recommendation made by Past Grand Commander Hacker, at the annual conclave of 1866, that only one representative should be allowed to each subordinate in the Grand Commandery. This rule has been adopted in the other Grand Masonic Bodies of Indiana, and the only doubt expressed is whether the Constitution of the Grand Encampment is to be construed as directory or peremptory. Unless we mistake his argument, Sir Knight Hazelrigg favors the recommendation, and concludes with remarking:

Should it be the pleasure of the Grand Commandery to act upon this question at the present time, they will doubtless give it a thorough examination, that a just and defensible conclusion may be attained, for no Sir Knight will willingly place himself in antagonism to superior authority. While we, as a Grand Commandery, exact from our subordinates full and implicit obedience to our mandates, we should be equally scrupulous in our observance of the requirements of our superiors. He that exacts justice from others should always be ready to observe it himself. If we can amend our Constitution so as to admit but one representative from each subordinate Commandery, without any violation of our allegiance to the Grand Encampment, I doubt not the propriety of doing it. I therefore recommend it to your calm and enlightened consideration.

Universal peace and harmony reign throughout the jurisdiction, and the Grand Commander states "that from the organization of the first Commandery in our jurisdiction, to the present time, not a single case has arisen requiring the disciplinary interference of our Order."

Four charters were granted, and one dispensation continued. The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred a portion of the Grand Commander's address, relating to Connecticut requiring the R. and S. M. degrees as a pre-requisite for the Orders of Knighthood, reported that it was not necessary to take action in the matter until a Sir Knight from Indiana, not in possession of those degrees, is refused recognition on that account. A special committee, who had under consideration that portion relating to limiting each subordinate to one representative in the Grand Body, reported that in their opinion it was inexpedient to make any change in this respect at present. Both reports were concurred in by the Grand Commandery. We are pleased with the result in regard to representation, as previous legislation did not lead us to expect it.

There are twelve Commanderies in this jurisdiction, with a total membership of 411.

Sir Harvey G. Hazelrigg, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir William Hacker, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

KENTUCKY.—The twenty-fourth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky was held in Georgetown, June 27, 1867, Sir Charles R. Woodruff, Grand Commander, presiding, and seven Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is confined to a recital of official duties performed and matters of local importance. He suggests that Sir Knights, who are already overburdened with office in Chapters and Lodges, are too frequently selected by the members of subordinates for their prominent officers, and considers the practice injurious to the permanent prosperity of a Commandery. Templar Masonry is increasing in popularity, and peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction.

Charters were granted to two Commanderies U. D., and a resolution was adopted instructing the Grand Recorder to publish with the proceedings annually a memorial page to each deceased Sir Knight in the jurisdiction.

Sir William C. Munger presented a carefully prepared and very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of eighteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1867 included, are commented upon in a courteous and knightly manner.

Kentucky has nine Commanderies and a total membership of 406.

Sir Charles R. Woodruff, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir William C. Munger, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

MAINE.—The seventh annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Maine was held in Portland, May 7, 1867. Sir Moses Dodge, Grand Commander, presiding, and nine Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander, in a well written address, regrets that he had not been able to give more time to the duties of his office. He says:

It is hardly necessary for me to say that the year past has been, to me, one

crowded with duties and cares, and burdened with troubles and difficulties. Many of you are aware that the disastrous conflagration of July 4, 1866, in its devastating course, drove me from my residence, and deprived me of my personal property, the accumulation of many years; it also destroyed my entire collection of manuscripts, with all my private papers—naught of Masonry remained, except two valued presents from my brethren. Thus situated, without a home, or library—or aught else with which to furnish or adorn one—it will be readily perceived that “my necessary vocations” forbid my devoting much time to Masonry.

Nothing had occurred to mar the harmony or disturb the tranquillity which reigns throughout his jurisdiction; very few questions of importance had been submitted for decision, and the following is the only one reported:

“Is a notice published in a newspaper legal and binding?” My answer is “no.” It is based upon the fact that it was so decided by M. E. Grand Master Wm. B. Hubbard, several years since, and concurred in by the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom his decisions were referred. His language is strong and definite in relation to it: “A notice in a newspaper is not a regular summons, nor can it be made a substitute for such summons. *Due and timely notice*, implies a personal notice or summons, either verbal or written. Notices of meetings, etc., through newspapers, are often, perhaps always, useful as cumulative information to members, as well as to transient or sojourning Knights. But in themselves, such notices are without any legal authority, having been unknown to any of our orders of Masonry, and never having been sanctioned by any competent authority.”

An amendment to the statutes of the Grand Commandery, making it imperative that “no business shall be transacted unless nine members of the Commandery are present,” was adopted, as was the following resolution:

Resolved, That no Commandery shall appear in public procession or any other than strictly Masonic occasions, and to do Masonic work, without the written order or permission of one of the first four Grand Officers.

During the conflagration of July, 1866, Mrs. Ira Berry performed a service of incalculable value to the Grand Commandery in saving, at a great sacrifice to herself, its records and effects, and in appreciation thereof, a suitable preamble and the following resolution were adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery tender to Mrs. Ira Berry our heartfelt thanks; and that as a slight testimonial of our appreciation of this disinterested act of hers, we do hereby beg her acceptance of the sum of fifty dollars.

Sir Josiah H. Drummond submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence, which reviews the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies, Louisiana for 1866 among the number, in a genial and courteous manner. Sir Knight Drummond, however, does not fail to admonish with candor when occasion requires. He has no sympathy with the fears entertained by Sir Knights Hacker of Indiana, Parvin of Iowa, and Gardner of Massachusetts, that the Grand Encampment is about to swallow up all the rights of the State Grand Commanderies. On the merits of the controversy between Pennsylvania and Massachusetts he declines to express an opinion at present. In relation to the funeral service, he very correctly remarks:

The right of burial is with the individual; the duty with the fraternity. The Lodge, Chapter, etc., have no right by which they can claim to bury a deceased brother. It is the right of the brother, but one which he is under no obligation to claim. If he claims it, the fraternity are bound to respond to

the claim. His wishes, as made known before his decease, or by his family or friends, are the paramount law of the brethren.

But we can readily perceive, that a Christian Sir Knight, while he holds in high regard and veneration the burial service of the Lodge, and the impressive lessons taught by it, may desire to have expressed at his burial something more, and wish to have his Brother Knights, as they lay his body in its final resting-place, give expression to his hope, his faith and his trust, in "the merits of the Lion of the tribe of Judah." Yet there can be but one service performed. And if a Sir Knight prefers the Templar service, and his Grand Commandery sees fit to impose on the Sir Knights such duties, we see no objection to it; certainly the Lodge has no right to complain. As yet, no Sir Knight has a right to claim the performance of such a duty by his comrades, except in those jurisdictions in which it has been enjoined by the proper authority.

There are ten Commanderies, with a total membership of 608, in this jurisdiction.

Sir Moses Dodge, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Ira Berry, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.—Another valuable addition to the literature of our Order is presented in the proceedings of this Grand Encampment for 1866, embracing the "doings" of several special, the semi-annual, and the annual assembly of October 26, at which Sir Charles H. Titus, "Grand Master," presided and eighteen "Encampments" were represented.

The committee appointed in 1865 reported in favor of a slight change in the titles of the Grand Officers, but were "not prepared to recommend an alteration of the title of Commander of subordinate Encampments;" and the report and recommendations were adopted. Of course the titles do not correspond with those prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States.

The most interesting portion of the pamphlet is the report of Sir William S. Gardner, from a special committee, in reply to the "historical statement" submitted by Sir Alfred Creigh to the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. It is an able document, and throws much light on the early history of our Order in Massachusetts, whose claims for seniority it advocates with a heightened and knightly courtesy. Its great length—covering as it does forty pages—precludes us from giving an analysis of it, but we propose to notice some points of general interest in another portion of this report.

The annual address of the "Grand Master" states that "the past has been a year of general and gratifying prosperity throughout our jurisdiction. Peace and harmony have prevailed. So far as I have been able to discover, there are no unhappy jealousies existing between different Encampments." He recounts his official acts, and we learn that the popularity of our Order is still increasing, and that during the year 397 companions had been knighted. His official visits to the subordinates afforded opportunities for social reunions and the interchange of personal courtesies, which are noticed in a pleasant manner. The Grand Master does not favor reports on Foreign Correspondence. He says:

As reviews, they are generally so brief and general as to be of little worth. As matters of history, they are so wanting in facts and details as to be of little or no value to the Masonic historian. As a temptation for mere gossip and chit-chat, they are dangerous to the high dignity and honor of the insti-

tution. I presume we shall still continue the even tenor of our way, and try to live in the future, as we have in the past, without a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Sir Knight Titus overlooks the first and great object for which such committees are appointed, viz: to present to the Sir Knights the condition and progress of our Order in sister jurisdictions, and "to point out what they suppose to be errors, and to warn their own constituency against adopting them." In the proceedings under review we find the duties of a Committee on Foreign Correspondence attended to in one instance by a special committee, and in another by Sir Knight Titus himself, who finds it necessary, in his annual address, to defend the "conservatism" of his Grand Body, against the charge of insubordination to the Grand Encampment of the United States which has been brought against it. He says:

This unwillingness to change has sometimes subjected us to seeming reproach on the part of eminent Templars in other jurisdictions, whose Grand Bodies, as compared with ours, are but of yesterday; but we accept this seeming reproach as deserved commendation. We have always claimed and exercised supreme jurisdiction over the Orders of Knighthood within our territorial limits. Within our jurisdiction we acknowledge no earthly power above us, so long as we adhere to the ancient landmarks of the Order. And so jealous were we of any assumptions that might be made over us by the Grand Encampment of the United States, when it ceased to be the *General Grand Encampment*, that from that time in all official obligations and candidates admitted, we have required obedience to the constitutions and general regulations of the same, only "so far as they shall conform to the ancient landmarks of the Order."

It is the cause of no little surprise to us in this Grand Encampment, to find in the published proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania such questions as the following, designed to inflict a severe rebuke upon the Grand Commandery of Indiana:

"After all this, we may well pause to ask if the Grand Commandery of Indiana has a charter? If so, what authority granted it?"

Does the writer above suppose that the Grand Commandery of Indiana exists by virtue of a charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States? Was the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania created by such a charter? If these are indeed chartered bodies, then are they of right, even within their own jurisdictions, subordinate bodies, and the reproof designed in the questions above quoted, well-deserved.

We have existed as a regular organization for the past sixty-one years, but neither at the beginning, nor during any part of that time, by virtue of any charter or warrant from a superior body; nor have we ever acknowledged any organization in the United States superior to us within our own jurisdiction. It is a new view to us that any grand body in Masonry exists by virtue of a charter. If the worthy and honored Templars in other jurisdictions have supposed that we owed a chartered allegiance to the Grand Encampment of the United States, no wonder that they have sometimes accused us of insubordination.

The advantages of this General Grand Encampment, to which we have always been true and loyal, even when we have denied its assumed prerogative to determine what titles and regalia shall obtain within our own jurisdiction, are both apparent and important. There can now be no discussion or strife among State Grand Bodies in reference to extending their jurisdiction over unoccupied territory. We do not and cannot claim the right to grant a charter or dispensation to a competent number of Knights Templar residing in Nevada or Idaho. The Grand Encampment of the United States alone has jurisdiction, and must continue to exercise it until a competent number of subordinate Encampments in such Territory shall unite to form their own

Grand Body. It has also been useful in securing, to a great extent, a uniformity in the work and ritual of the Orders of Knighthood. Its triennial assemblies afford most pleasant and convenient opportunities for the leading Templars of the United States to meet in fraternal conference, compare views and promote the general interests of the Order. And if, in its future assemblies, it shall be as sparing of legislation as at its last meeting at Columbus, Ohio, we may have good hope of its continued prosperity and usefulness.

There is a self complacency in the above which is quite refreshing. No argument, however, is required to show that the position assumed by Grand Master Titus is untenable—a recital of the facts is all that is necessary.

On the 20th and 21st June, 1816, delegates from Boston Encampment, Boston; St. John's Encampment, Providence; Ancient Encampment, New York; Temple Encampment, Albany; Montgomery Encampment, Stillwater; St. Paul's Encampment, Newburyport; Newport Encampment, Newport; and Darius Encampment, Portland, met in convention in New York, and "formed, adopted and ratified" a constitution for a General Grand Encampment for the United States. Not a single State Grand Body was represented, but on the contrary, provision was made for the formation of such bodies. This constitution specifies who shall compose the General Grand Encampment, and after naming the G. G. officers and certain Past G. G. officers, adds, "the Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Generalissimos, and Grand Captain Generals of *all such State Grand Encampments as may be instituted or holden by virtue of this Constitution*; and the said enumerated officers, or their proxies, shall be the only members and voters in the said General Grand Encampment." By an amendment passed in 1826, Encampments holding under charters from the General Grand Encampment in States where there is no Grand Encampment are entitled to representation and one vote. This is sufficient to prove that the Grand Encampment of the United States was not formed by State Grand Bodies, and therefore does not derive its power and authority from them. It was by virtue of this constitution that Grand Master Hubbard, on April 24th, 1854, issued his warrant "to form and establish the State Grand Encampment of Indiana;" and it has no legal existence except in preserving its allegiance to the parent Grand Body whose Constitution its officers have all vowed to maintain and support.

At the Thirteenth Triennial Session, held at Hartford in 1856, the constitution of the Grand Encampment was revised, amended and adopted by an unanimous vote. The changes then made in titles, etc., have given rise to much discussion, and in a few instances a spirit of insubordination has been displayed, which cannot be reconciled with our vows of fealty to the Grand Encampment of the United States, and we hold that Massachusetts is as much bound to obey its requirements as the youngest of her sisters.

The receipt of the proceedings of eighteen Grand Commanderies—Louisiana among the number—is acknowledged. The statistics show twenty-two subordinate Encampments, with a total membership of 2226. The proceedings are beautifully printed.

Sir Charles H. Titus, "M. E. Grand Master," and Sir Solon Thornton, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

MICHIGAN.—The annual convocation of the Grand Commandery of Michigan was held in Detroit, June 5, 1866, Sir G. B. Noble, Grand Commander, presiding, and thirteen Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is devoted to local matters, and concludes with the following considerate remarks:

Sir Knights: As we proceed with our labors, let us for one moment call our attention to the condition of our Order without our own jurisdiction, especially in the South. The smoldering embers upon the altar of Masonic Knighthood, in many of the jurisdictions, will need our kindly care, to enkindle once more the flame of fraternal love. Let us remember, then, that it becomes us, as members of an institution founded on the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues, to extend to them that glorious attribute of Deity—mercy—that our beloved institution in the South may rise again in beauty and strength; that we may again become one inseparable fraternity, knowing no North, no South, no East, no West.

The following case came up on appeal: A Sir Knight was one of the petitioners for a dispensation for a new Commandery, which afterwards obtained a charter. Under the charter he was elected and installed one of its officers, but never signed the by-laws. It was decided that he was a member, and should be permitted to sign the by-laws.

The report on Foreign Correspondence acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of ten Grand Commanderies, our own for 1865 included. It is very brief, but short as it is, it breathes the true knightly spirit, and concludes with the following remarks:

The addresses of the several Grand Commanders and other officers evidence a high order of culture and Masonic research, and their composition, and the *animus* which pervades them might, with great benefit to the country, be emulated by the many religious and political organizations of the land.

The annual conclave of 1867 was held in Detroit, on June 4th, Sir S. L. Dart, Grand Commander, presiding, and fifteen Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander's address is brief, but to the point. He had granted dispensations for three new Commanderies, and alluding to the popularity of Templar Masonry, remarks;

Some Sir Knights fear that our Order is extending too fast. But can its sublime truths be told too much; can too many hearts be made to melt at the tale of a crucified Saviour? Those who come to us are generally of the best intellect, and never forget their "tour of penance." Then let our banners be displayed in the rays of the morning sun, and call around us the true and faithful of Masonry.

Charters were granted to three Commanderies U. D., and a resolution adopted, by which "charges may be preferred for non-payment of dues, like other offences, and proper penalties inflicted." This, in our opinion, is the only correct course to pursue. There are those who look with indifference on the striking of their names off the roll; but if charges were preferred against them for a violation of the by-laws and defrauding the Body out of its just dues, they would soon learn to look upon the matter in a more serious light.

The Grand Recorder, Sir Knight Bourke, again submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence, which acknowledges the receipt, and briefly, but courteously, notices the proceedings of nineteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1866 included. The closing remarks are so correct and apposite that we regret Sir Knight Bourke does not give us more from his pen. He says:

It is beautifully true, however strange, and presents incontrovertible proof of the sublime principles governing our Order, that throughout this widely extended country, the only true fraternal link not severed by strife and war is to be found in Masonry. When every man's hand was raised against his brother, one institution alone remembered its sacred ties, and under various and trying exigencies and emergencies, was always ready to extend the right hand of fellowship to a falling brother.

Eighteen Commanderies in the jurisdiction—the returns of fourteen show a membership of 769.

Sir E. D. Benedict elected R. E. Grand Commander; Sir C. Bourke re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

MINNESOTA.—We are indebted to the able report on Foreign Correspondence presented to the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, by Sir James H. Hopkins, for the information that on October 23, 1865, the Grand Commandery of Minnesota was duly constituted, and its officers installed by the M. E. Grand Master of the United States, Sir H. L. Palmer. The first annual conclave was held in St. Paul, June 25, 1866, at which time a constitution and regulations and a design for an official seal were adopted. We extend a fraternal greeting and a knightly welcome to the Sir Knights of the lacustrine State, and hope to be able, in our next report, to record further evidences of their zeal and prosperity.

Sir George W. Prescott was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir C. W. Carpenter E. Grand Recorder.

MISSOURI.—The seventh annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Missouri was held in St. Louis, October 7, 1867, Sir George Frank Gouley, Grand Commander, presiding, and four Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is an able production. During the eighteen months which had elapsed since the last conclave, Death, borne upon the wings of the pestilence, had invaded the ranks of the Grand Commandery, and summoned three active and two past Grand Officers to the Asylum above. The Grand Commander pays a beautiful tribute to the memory of Sir Anthony O'Sullivan and the other Sir Knights, suitable resolutions were adopted, and five memorial pages record their names and virtues. The Grand Commander had issued three dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies. Their work was approved and charters granted. A large portion of the address is devoted to a consideration of the claims and merits of the A. and A. Rite, and the correspondence with Bro. Pike on the subject is given in an appendix. The questions at issue, with the resolutions adopted, will be noticed under the head of General Remarks.

Unable to find a Sir Knight willing to prepare a report on Foreign Correspondence, and thus fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the lamented O'Sullivan, the Grand Commander presents, at the close of his address, a brief but comprehensive review of the proceedings of fifteen Grand Commanderies, our own receiving a kind and favorable notice. Alluding to a decision of Sir Robert Pitcairn, Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, that the Commander of a body under dispensation was not entitled to the honors of a P. E. C. after the dispensation ceased, thus confirming a decision of Past Grand Master French, Sir Knight Gouley calls attention to a custom in his

Grand Commandery to vote early in the session upon applications for charters, and, when granted, to allow the officers to vote. This he considers erroneous. In this connection he reports a decision of his own, "that active membership in a subordinate Commandery is a condition precedent to membership in the Grand Commandery, and that honorary membership confers no qualification to vote in Grand or subordinate bodies." This decision was concurred in by the Grand Commandery.

A committee was appointed to make suitable arrangements for the reception of the members of the Grand Encampment of the United States at its triennial assembly, to be held in St. Louis in September next. A Drill was adopted and the statutes were revised—both are published in the appendix. The Drill differs slightly from our own, and we find the following excellent provision in the statutes:

No Sir Knight shall wear the distinctive color or insignia of office belonging to the Grand Commandery in a subordinate Commandery, except the first four active or past officers of the Grand Body, present and Past Eminent Commanders; this prohibition also applies to all distinctive badges of any other rite than the York Rite; and it is imperative for the first four officers to wear gilt and all the active members may wear gold in the Grand Body.

There are seven Commanderies, with a total membership of 300 Sir Knights.

Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir A. B. M. Thompson, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

NEW YORK.—The fifty-third annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of New York was held at Syracuse, October 2, 1866, Sir Pearson Mundy, Grand Commander, presiding, and twenty-eight Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is brief and business-like. It opens with the gratifying intelligence that "peace reigns within our borders and prosperity prevails within our asylums;" and then enjoins upon the Sir Knights to adhere faithfully to the requirement "that none but good men and true are entitled to the honors of our Order." The death of Past Grand Commander Sir Leroy Farnham is noticed in appropriate and feeling terms. The Grand Commander also reports the following decision:

That any well informed Sir Knight may confer the Orders of Knighthood in a Commandery in the presence of the Eminent Commander or Council of the Commandery while in session.

A charter for a new Commandery was granted. A beautiful design for a Past Grand Commander's jewel was adopted. An important, and in our opinion a very judicious, amendment was made to the statutes, which prohibits the conferring the Order of Knight Templar on a candidate in less than one week after receiving the Knight of the Red Cross, except by special dispensation. The Drill was exemplified under the direction of P. G. Commander Sir Orrin Welch, who was also presented with a testimonial by the Grand Commandery.

Sir John W. Simons presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he reviews, in an interesting and instructive manner, the proceedings of fourteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1866 among the number. The exordium of the report deserves a careful perusal, and affords matter for se-

rious reflection. After renewing his congratulations on the general prosperity of our Order, Sir Knight Simons says:

We are inclined to believe, however, that our progress has not been commensurate with the merits of chivalric Masonry; that there is a general want of appreciation as to its position in the system we have established in this country, and that influences are at work, the direct tendency of which is to make Templar Masonry a minor consideration, and gradually to undermine and destroy the work already accomplished. The simple and direct series of the American system no longer satisfies the desire for degrees and distinctions, and in the greater number and show of Foreign Rites, that zeal and attention which ought to make the Commandery the highest and most interesting branch of Masonry is directed to other channels and other interests. This growing influence and power is, however, extraneous to our organization, and not one we can hope to control; but it is, nevertheless, one which is working manifest evil in an increasing ratio. It remains to be seen whether we shall be able to develop sufficient wisdom to resist these adverse influences.

There is, if possible, however, a still worse spirit existing in the Order itself, which we can and ought—nay, which we are bound to resist if we would maintain our organization; a spirit which, be it said, this Grand Commandery and others have strongly resisted, but which refuses to listen to admonition, and preserves its hostile attitude. We refer to the spirit of disintegration, which, if successful in its aims, will demoralize the Order of Masonic Knights Templar, and reduce it to isolated State Communities, each independent of the other, and all tending to the extinction of its importance as the crowning glory of the American Rite. The Governing Bodies of Massachusetts and Ohio stand to day in undisguised opposition to the Grand Encampment of the United States, refuse obedience to its Constitution, and set up their State organizations as claiming a fealty superior to that of the National Body; the Grand Commanderies of Iowa and Indiana, while professing obedience, give open expression to the most disloyal sentiments, and thus lend their influence to wound the Order in the very house of its friends. To this state of facts there can be but one issue. A house thus divided cannot stand, and it is but a question of time when, the interests of the Sir Knights divided among multiplied and conflicting systems of degrees, when, the leading spirits of great States willing to assume the honors of the Grand Encampment but refusing to obey her edicts, the whole system shall crumble to ruins, and the places that knew it in its glory, know it no more forever! This is by no means an imaginary danger, nor can the Sir Knights close their eyes upon it without doing violence to their profession and their vows. If, then, the system of Templar Masonry is worthy of our attention, our labor, and our faith; if we mean to preserve it against the overshadowing effects of outside influences, and against the hostility of those within its courts, the faithful and true must burnish their weapons for a conflict now upon them, and by an awakened zeal and a firmer devotion prove themselves to have worthily enlisted in this noble and glorious warfare; resolve to maintain the Order in its integrity and the Grand Encampment in the full exercise of its national prerogatives. In that lies our only safety; and we may be sure in advance that the bell which rings the knell of the National Body will likewise toll for the destruction of the Order.

We agree with Sir Knight Simons, that our only hope of safety lies in sustaining with an unfaltering fealty the Grand Encampment of the United States. In thus maintaining the integrity of our Order we will be able to present an unbroken front to all adverse extraneous influences. The impressive solemnity of our ceremonies, combined with the elevating tendency of Templar Masonry, is so far superior to that of all other degrees or orders that, true to ourselves, we have nothing to fear from the Foreign Rite.

In reply to Sir Knight Parvin, of Iowa, who accuses the Grand Body of having “tinkered” with the Templar’s uniform, Sir Knight Simons remarks:

The fact is that up to 1859 there was no uniform. Every Sir Knight got up a "regalia" on his own hook, and ornamented it to suit his own notions of propriety; especial care being taken that no one else should have one like it, so that in all Commanderies, Grand or subordinate, there was a display of frippery worthy of a Chinese regiment. At the session of 1859, where this ludicrous exhibition of personal adornments was seen in all its grandeur, a committee was appointed to prepare and report a uniform. They discharged the duty imposed on them, and presented a uniform described in as close accordance with the historical costume of the Ancient Templars as could be made to assimilate with our modern ideas of dress. The report was adopted, and thus the first uniform was presented to the Order. It included a full uniform and fatigue dress. In 1862, it was found, on consultation with the representatives assembled, that there was a general indisposition to wear the full dress, while the fatigue met with very general approval and adoption. It was, therefore, resolved to drop the white tunic and cloak, which constitute the full uniform, and to give shoulder straps to the officers as a mark of distinction, and this was the only change. And this is the tinkering and constant changes of which our good friend Parvin professes to be so wearied. The old arrangement, which was borrowed from a Foreign Rite, was that each man should pile on all the tinsel he was strong enough to carry, or could find money to pay for; and the present is a standard, neat, serviceable, appropriate and inexpensive, which will be the same all over the country, and will be a uniform in reality.

Commenting on the rule in Maine, that no business can be transacted unless nine members of a Commandery are present, Sir Knight Simons argues that if a conclave of a Commandery is called, and the Commander finds only himself and eight visiting Knights present, he may open and proceed to ballot for a candidate. While not prepared to go thus far, we cordially endorse the following:

We have had multitudes of complainants before us when in office, grieving that something had been done in their Lodges or Commanderies when only a few persons had been present. We have always replied: "It was your duty to have been there, or, being there, it was your duty to have remained till the gavel sounded the close of labor. You expect your presiding officer to be at his post, and to remain there to the end, and he has the right to expect the same of you. Absenting yourself from the meeting, or leaving before the close of it, you have no right whatever to complain of what is done in your absence."

There are some other things in this excellent report which we would like to notice, but we have not the space at our command.

The fifty-fourth annual conclave was held at Saratoga Springs, October 1, 1867, Sir Pearson Mundy, Grand Commander, presiding, and thirty-one Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander opens with some appropriate remarks on the gratification anticipated and the joy experienced at the re-union of the Sir Knights from all parts of the jurisdiction, in annual conclave. He congratulates them on the peace and prosperity which reign throughout their borders, and adds:

Be it ours, Sir Knights, ever to maintain with scrupulous care, the proud record made for us; ours to keep so displayed in the West our fair banners, that the true and the faithful gazing on them shall be animated and encouraged to the loftiest valor, the purest beneficence, and the most unfeigned devotion to the cause of Him on whose name all the nations of the earth shall yet believe, and our enemies who, in opposing us, oppose the cause of Immanuel, the cause of the widow, the destitute and the helpless, be utterly con-

founded; ours to make due allowance for the frailties and errors of our common nature, and rising superior to the passions and weaknesses of the moment, to preserve inviolate our faith to the whole Order, our allegiance to its National Head, and especially the union and harmony which are the blessed appanage of this Grand Commandery.

Grand Commander Mundy is not afraid of our Order becoming too popular, because, "if our cause is a just and commendable one, as we know it to be, it cannot have too many adherents;" and he is satisfied that the instinct of self-preservation will teach the Commanderies the exercise of care in the selection of proper applicants. He issued five dispensations for new Commanderies during the year, and among the decisions reported we find the following:

3. That an applicant for the Orders, having been rejected by one Commandery, cannot be received in another without the consent of the rejecting Commandery, but that a majority vote at a stated conclave is sufficient to give such consent.

4. That the process of striking from the roll is not recognized in our statutes; while, on the other hand, the Grand Commandery has repeatedly expressed its disapprobation of that process, and indicated that those who neglect or refuse to pay dues, should be suspended until they comply with their own contracts.

5. That while a Commander may permit a Sir Knight to officiate in his absence, in delivering the ritual to an applicant, the accolade should not be delegated to any one of inferior rank, but always be given by the Commander in person, or by the Grand Commander, when present.

6. That none but the most imperative reasons can justify failure to obey a lawful summons, and that a Sir Knight duly summoned and neglecting to obey, has no possible ground of complaint as to matters transacted in his absence.

We are not prepared to endorse No. 5. In the absence of the Commander the Generalissimo presides over the Commandery, and if there is any reason why, when so presiding, he should not give the "accolade," we would like to know it.

Sir John W. Simons presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of fourteen Grand Commanderies—our own included. Like everything which comes from his pen, it is marked with ability. The Grand Encampment has no braver Knight enlisted in its service—and the pretensions of our Massachusetts friends receive little consideration from his pen. Noticing Grand Commander Hazelrigg's remarks on drill, that "nothing beyond what is necessary to communicate the orders, teach the modes of recognition, and prove our right to participate in the practices of our Commandery is necessary," Sir Knight Simons remarks:

We have always labored under the conviction that the Order in which we take pride was intended to perpetuate the remembrance of the Ancient Templars, and, in a measure at least, to imitate their methods of doing business. They were a Military Order, and passed more time in the saddle than in the cloister. Their warlike prowess was not gained nor maintained by repeating *paternosters* and telling their beads, but by hard and continuous work in the field. Stripped of their military achievements, and almost any of their contemporary Orders would surpass them. If, then, we put aside the military feature of Templar Masonry, we at once lose the most striking point of resemblance between our present Order and the gallant Knights whose name we choose to bear, and rotate back into the beaten paths of the preceding organizations. We are clearly, then, of opinion that it is essential to a cor-

rect discharge of our duties as Templars, that we should maintain the promptness, decision and discipline of a Military Order; that our Sir Knights should learn and practice so much of the drill and routine of a soldier as will enable them to obey promptly and well the orders issued by the Commander or officers of the line. It does not follow, however, that this is to be the *sine qua non* of Templar proceedings, but an important and necessary adjunct to a correct rendering of the ritual and ceremonies of the Commandery.

In his notice of our own proceedings, he quotes that portion of Grand Commander Todd's address in which he states that three dispensations had been granted to abbreviate the time between the application and conferring the Orders, and remarks:

If plausible reasons are all that is required, there will never be a lack of them for the accomplishment of any purpose. Let it be understood that a good reason is all that is needed for a dispensation to set aside an inconvenient regulation, and dispensations will be the rule instead of the exception. It is to be wished that those in authority would sternly refuse all compromises of this nature, and while the law stands upon the statute book, exact its full measure.

In the Lodge we are opposed to all dispensations, and do not believe that a real case of emergency occurs once in a century. In this State, however, with our three Commanderies located in the city, we do not, as Templars, think the rule should be so strictly observed. Many worthy Companions, residing in the country parishes, visit the city only once or twice during the year, and then only for a few days; to compel them to remain in town for four weeks, until their applications could be acted upon, would virtually exclude them from our Order. We consider such cases warrant the interposition of the Grand Commander, and while the reasons assigned might warrant the use of the term "plausible," if we had the same facilities of communication with the interior, or had Commanderies located all over the State, as in New York, it is, under the circumstances, wholly inapplicable.

Referring to our objections to a decision of Grand Commander Welch, that "a Red Cross Knight losing an arm or a leg is not thereby debarred from receiving the remaining Orders," Sir Knight Simons says:

It seems to be generally overlooked that when the landmarks were established there was no Masonry beyond the symbolic degrees, and all Masonic jurists now agree that the law of physical qualifications applies only to candidates for the initiatory degree. "An Apprentice must be hale and sound at the time of his making," but there is no warrant for requiring like conditions from an E. A. applying for advancement. In the degrees and orders of the Chapter and Commandery physical qualifications have nothing to do except where they are, so to speak, dragged in; and we assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that so far as the ancient landmarks are concerned, any Chapter or Commandery may confer their degrees and orders without restrictions. It is time that a more catholic view of Masonic law in the Templar branch should prevail, and that we should get over the habit of measuring all our acts as Templars by the rules of Symbolic Masonry. As Master Masons, we are strictly bound by the fundamental law and by the legislation of the Grand Lodge. As Templars, while observing the general spirit of the law as taught us in the Lodge, we are emancipated in many things from its details. The Lodge sets up walls and outworks to protect itself from the profane. The Commandery, located behind these ramparts, confers its honors only on those who have regularly passed the outer gates, and need not therefore insist upon all the minutiae which attend the first entrance of the profane to the privileges of Masonry.

We still retain our opinion, and cannot accept as correct Sir Knight Simons'

assertion that "all Masonic jurists now agree that the law of physical qualifications applies only to candidates for the initiatory degree." The fact is, there is no question in the whole range of Masonic jurisprudence upon which there is a greater diversity of opinion. Hence we are not prepared to admit that "any Chapter or Commandery may confer their degrees or orders without restrictions." Nor do we hold that, "as Templars, while observing the general spirit of the law as taught us in the Lodge, we are emancipated in many things from its details." We consider that all cases in the Commandery, except those of religious belief, are governed by the law of the Grand Lodge, unless there is a special enactment to the contrary. Any other rule would set us adrift on a treacherous sea, without chart or rudder.

Sir Knight Simons, from the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, presented a report, which was referred back to the Committee, with a request that they report at the next annual conclave a full code of statutes and regulations, together with a code of Templar jurisprudence.

New York has thirty-six Commanderies, and a total membership of 3558.

Sir John A. Lefferts, elected R. E. Grand' Commander, and Sir Robert Macoy re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

OHIO.—The twenty-fifth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Ohio was held in Cincinnati, October 11, 1867, Sir Heman Ely, Grand Commander, presiding, and fifteen Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander delivered a practical address, confined to local matters and breathing the true knightly spirit. In appropriate and feeling terms, he announces the death of a faithful and valiant Templar, Sir Platt Benedict, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. After alluding to the proposed amendments to the Constitution, he concludes his address with the following remarks:

Let us then, Sir Knights, with that spirit of concession which should animate all valiant and magnanimous Knights having the prosperity of Knighthood in our entire jurisdiction at heart, take up this subject and endeavor to frame such statutes for our future government as will insure the growth and prosperity of Christian Knighthood in Ohio, remove those obstacles which prevent many from availing themselves of the benefits and privileges of our Orders, and at the same time place ourselves in full accord with the Grand Encampment of the United States.

The only business of general interest transacted was the adoption, by a unanimous vote, of the proposed amendments to the Constitution, and now the nomenclature in Ohio is in entire conformity with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States. We congratulate the Templars of the Buckeye State in the magnanimous spirit displayed in surrendering their pet prejudices at the call of duty and allegiance. We expected nothing else from her chivalrous Sir Knights, and we hope that the example thus set will have some effect upon the sullen dignity of disobedience manifested by our fraters of Massachusetts. In the meantime, we say, with Sir John W. Simons, "Let us pray for them."

Sir Robert Gwynn presented a very fair and creditable report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirteen Grand Commanderies, our own not included. [Our Grand Recorder assures us that copies were for-

warded by mail—but the irregularities of the P. O. Department are past finding out.] Sir Knight Gwynn commends the action of Connecticut in making the R. and S. M. degrees a pre-requisite for the Orders of Knighthood, and advocates the practice of Maryland and Virginia in placing these degrees under the control of R. A. Chapters. In this he is opposing the rule of his own State.

There are fifteen Commanderies in this jurisdiction, with a membership of 1239.

Sir Heman Ely, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John D. Caldwell, Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The ninth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, under its present organization, and the seventieth since the introduction of the Orders of Christian Knighthood by the Grand Encampment of 1797, was held at Pittsburg, June 12, 1867, Sir Robert Pitcairn, Grand Commander, presiding, and nineteen Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander, besides detailing his official acts—among which were the granting of dispensations to two new Commanderies—contains much interesting matter. Alluding to the question of the ritual, he states that Massachusetts has admitted that we are not in possession of the true work, although she doubts the propriety of attempting a change, and adds:

One thing is certain, there is no authority for modernizing Masonry, no matter how applicable locally may be the change. If there is one vow more binding than another, it is that binding us to cling to and keep sacred the ancient landmarks of our Fathers. Modernize Masonry, or change any part of the edifice, and you destroy the beauty, strength and glory of the whole building.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Grand Commander, a committee was appointed to prepare a report upon this subject, and to present it in time for the action of the Grand Encampment of the United States, at its next triennial meeting.

Sir Knight Pitcairn is afraid our Order is increasing too rapidly. He thinks "our doors are swung entirely too far back, and too many are rushed through with locomotive speed." He says:

It requires calm thought, deliberate action, purpose of mind and holy resolves to enter our communion. There is no place on earth so sacred as an asylum of Templars. Our rites and ceremonies are the embodiment of silence, holiness, purity and sincerity. Then why destroy the sanctity of these essentials by creating more than one Sir Knight at a time? My own opinion is that it takes away that solemnity which the candidate should preserve, and detracts from the beauty of our rituals. Upon this question I trust a committee will be appointed who will report fully upon the subject, and limit the number to two or three persons, if not to our ancient number, which in all cases was confined to the individual himself. * * *

It seems to me that we are allowing ourselves to become looser in our inquiries as to the character of candidates for knighting, especially as to their religious belief; permitting R. A. Masons to become Knights Templar, who do not fully believe in the trinity of the Godhead, and that Christ was the Son of God, as revealed in the New Testament. It was for this knighthood was established; it was for this the Crusaders attempted to recover the Holy Land, in which our Redeemer was born, lived, crucified, buried and arose from the dead; it was for this that the Templar Order has unceasingly and

perseveringly labored—to build up the doctrine of the Holy Trinity—"three persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one true, eternal God—the same in substance; equal in power and glory, although distinguished by their personal properties,"—and which is represented in all the asylums by the Sacred Delta.

The recommendation of the Grand Commander that petitions for initiation should be so worded as to preclude all possibility of evading this important subject was adopted, but in regard to the number of Sir Knights to be created at one time, it was considered that the question is one which more appropriately belongs to the Grand Encampment of the United States, and that its decision should be obtained, in order to regulate the action of all Commanderies throughout the Union. Without dissenting from the position assumed on this question by our Pennsylvania fraters, we think that no E. Commander who has a proper appreciation of the beauty and solemnity of our ceremonies, or the sublime truths inculcated in the asylum, will willingly confer the Order of the Temple upon more than one candidate at a time.

Charters for six new Commanderies were granted. Eight hundred dollars were donated to assist in ameliorating the distress and destitution existing in the States of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi, in sums of two hundred dollars each, to be distributed through the Grand Commanders of the respective States named. In this the Sir Knights of Pennsylvania emulate the Templars of old, whose deeds of charity and pure beneficence spread their fame both far and wide.

The Grand Recorder was instructed to forward one copy of Creigh's History of Knighthood, to each of the Grand Officers of the Grand Encampments of the United States, Canada, England, Scotland and Ireland; and three copies to each State Grand Commandery, viz: to the Grand Commander, the Grand Recorder, and the third copy to be deposited in their archives. This work is a valuable addition to Templar literature. The laborious research and patient investigation displayed in its compilation reflect great credit upon the author, and shed much light upon the early history of Templar Masonry in the United States.

At the installation of the Grand Officers, the Grand Prelate, Rev. Sir R. H. Pattison, delivered an address, in which the martial achievements of the Templars and the principles symbolized by the Cross are eloquently portrayed.

Sir Alfred Creigh, Grand Historiographer, read a reply to the report of the Committee of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, in which the question of seniority is discussed with marked ability. We have not space to reproduce this document entire, and an epitome would fail to do it justice. It will doubtless draw forth a rejoinder from Massachusetts—but, in our opinion, Sir Knight Creigh holds the vantage-ground.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Sir James H. Hopkins. The proceedings of eighteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1867 included, are reviewed in a genial and courteous manner, and five Grand Commanderies whose proceedings were not received are kindly noticed. We are also indebted to this report for the information that a Grand Commandery has been established in Minnesota.

Desirous of obtaining entire uniformity in all particulars, Sir Knight Hopkins argues that there should be a "nomenclature peculiar to Templarism,

and which should be used by all jurisdictions." He cites the great variety of expressions employed to designate the same act, and objects to those which are applicable to popular meetings, legislative bodies, or even to other branches of Masonry. "Conclave" is considered the proper term for our periodical meetings, and far preferable to the word "Assembly," which is used in two States. In relation to such phrases as "called from labor to refreshment," etc., he says:

Remembering the origin, purposes and character of our Order, it will strike any one that the expressions "called to" or "from labor," are inappropriate. Ours is a Knightly Order, having chivalrous duties to perform, but the nature of its duties is military and religious. In the lower degrees of Masonry we "labored" at the building of the Temple; but here we protect the shrine which renders the Temple sacred, and defend the doctrines of Him who sanctified both shrine and Temple.

This subject merits an attentive consideration. United as we are under one supreme head, enlisted in the same cause, and professing the same faith, we think, with Sir Knight Hopkins, that we should have a language peculiar to ourselves, and which should be the same in all our asylums. But can this be done without producing bickering and contention?

Nine "Monumental Records" are inscribed with the names of those Sir Knights who died during the year—each Commandery having a memorial page reserved for its own dead. We consider this a very appropriate manner of recording the virtues of the departed, and as it is observed in several jurisdictions, we would like to see it adopted in our own.

Pennsylvania has twenty-seven Commanderies, with a total membership of 1681.

Sir Jer. L. Hutchinson was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Alfred Creigh re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

A special conclave was held in Philadelphia, September 26, 1867, at which a charter for a new Commandery was granted. The Committee on the Ritual presented an able report, which reviews the whole question and concludes with an appeal to the Sir Knights of the United States to instruct their representatives to the Grand Encampment to vote for an abandonment of the present, and a return to the ancient, ritual. We have not space to give the report entire, but the importance of the subject demands that it should receive a careful consideration, and we therefore present, under the head of General Remarks, a statement of the questions at issue between Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

TENNESSEE.—The fifth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee was held in Nashville, December 10, 1866, Sir John W. McClelland, Deputy Grand Commander, presiding, and three chartered and three Commanderies U. D. represented.

The address of the Grand Commander, Sir Amasa S. Underwood, whose feeble health prevented his attendance, was read. It briefly recounts his official acts, the principal ones being the issuance of three dispensations for new Commanderies, and urges upon the Sir Knights to "always keep the Cross in view." We regret to state that, five days after he had laid down the baton of office, his soul winged its flight to the spirit land, and an order was issued

by his successor that each subordinate Commandery should be draped in black, and every Sir Knight should wear crape on his sword hilt and left arm, for thirty days.

The business transacted was of a local character. Three charters for new Commanderies were granted, and one charter refused—the location of the proposed Commandery being considered too near the Kentucky State line.

P. G. C. Sir Charles A. Fuller presented a carefully prepared report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Encampment U. S., and fourteen State Grand Commanderies, our own for 1866 included. Sir Knight Fuller wields a ready and graceful pen, and has fully succeeded in his object, which was to present “a fair and impartial synopsis of the proceedings of sister Commanderies.”

The sixth annual conclave was held in Nashville, October 15, 1867, Sir John McClelland, Grand Commander, presiding, and six Commanderies represented.

No address appears to have been delivered by the Grand Commander, and the business transacted possesses no general interest. A special committee appointed to prepare and have published with the proceedings, an obituary notice of Sir Amasa S. Underwood, P. G. Commander, failed to furnish it in time for publication.

Sir Knight Fuller again presented an interesting and able report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of fourteen Grand Commanderies, Louisiana for 1867 included, are reviewed in a courteous manner. He quotes, from the address of Sir Knight Titus, the claims for sovereign authority set up by the “Grand Encampment” of Massachusetts, and remarks:

We do not know how the sentiments expressed in the preceding extracts may be appreciated elsewhere, but to our unsophisticated ears they sound like *heresy* if not *actual rebellion* to regularly constituted authority—an authority, too, asserted boastingly by the Sir Knights of Massachusetts as having been originally mainly constituted by themselves. If the Grand Encampment of the United States permits this resistance to its decrees, it would be well for it to declare its own dissolution as an effete and decrepid body, whose days of usefulness have passed away.

The report was prepared when Sir Knight Fuller was suffering from long-continued sickness, and the publication of the proceedings was delayed and the statistical tables omitted for the same reason. We hope, that through the kind mercy of Divine Providence, our aged frater may be soon restored to health, and that we may have the pleasure of reading many more reports from his practiced pen.

Sir John Frizzell was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Charles A. Fuller re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

TEXAS.—The fourteenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Texas was held in Houston, June 10, 1867, Sir N. B. Yard, Deputy Grand Commander, presiding, and four Commanderies represented.

There is no address from the Grand Commander. The Grand Recorder acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of four Grand Commanderies, our own included; there is, however, no report on Foreign Correspondence, the Grand Recorder having failed to place the proceedings received in the hands

of the committee. We look for an interesting report next year, as it was made the duty of P. G. C. Sir Knight Tucker "to use his utmost endeavors to procure an exchange of the proceedings of other Grand Commanderies, and obtain all the information possible relative to the Orders of Knighthood, for the benefit and future good of the Order in Texas."

A dispensation for a new Commandery, to be located at San Antonio, was granted. The business transacted was of a local nature, and calculated to build up and restore what had been lost during our national troubles, while the spirit manifested was one of which the most prosperous jurisdiction might well feel proud.

Five Commanderies return a total membership of 222.

Sir N. B. Yard was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Robert Brewster re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

VERMONT.—The annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Vermont was held in Burlington, June 11, 1867, Sir George M. Hall, Grand Commander, presiding, and five Commanderies represented.

An eloquent and very interesting address was delivered by the Grand Commander, in which he details his official acts and alludes in feeling terms to several Sir Knights who, having completed their pilgrimage on earth, had been summoned "to join with those who have gone before." Every Sir Knight should ponder over the following extract from this address, and endeavor not only to practice the sentiments inculcated—but also enforce them:

We should never knowingly admit to our holy Order an irreligious man. I do not mean that the applicant should necessarily be a member of any denomination in the Christian Church, or of any sect, but that he should, in all his actions, be governed by the Christian principle—

"To do good and communicate, forget not."

The solemn ceremonies of initiation to our Order should never, under any circumstances, be debased, or abused by associating with the base, the dishonorable, or even the thoughtless scoffer, but we should ever insist, as a requisite to admission among us, upon that high-souled honor and truth that characterized the Order in its earliest days;—when we are thus careful of our honor and of our associations, Sir Knights, we may reasonably expect that true chivalry, as we understand it, will ever characterize the Order, and that to be a *Knight Templar*, will be emphatically, to be a *gentleman*. Be thus ever watchful, Sir Knights, to preserve the reputation of the Order unsullied, admit none to your high privileges but the noble, the good, and the true; then will our beloved Order become an element of progress in society, and that heavenly sentiment, "peace on earth and good will to men," will become the leading star of our hopes.

A charter for a new Commandery was granted. Very little business was transacted—and that of a local nature.

Sir Russell S. Taft presented a lengthy and very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, which reviews in courteous and knightly terms the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies, our own for 1867 being of the number.

Vermont has six subordinates, with a membership of 323.

Sir George M. Hall, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John B. Hollenbeck, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

VIRGINIA.—The annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Virginia was held in Richmond, December 13, 1867, Sir Edward H. Gill, Grand Commander, presiding, and five Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander, although brief, is imbued with the true knightly spirit. He regrets that a species of apathy, "consequent perhaps upon the depressed condition of our 'good old commonwealth,' appears to pervade the Order within this jurisdiction." He is not despondent, however, and we sincerely trust that the hopes he entertains of a brighter future will soon be realized.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of fourteen Grand Commanderies—our own included—and express their gratification at the harmony and prosperity which so pre-eminently distinguish our Order.

The returns of eight Commanderies give a total membership of 577.

Sir Edward H. Gill, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John Dove, V. E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

WISCONSIN.—The eighth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin was held at Milwaukee, January 2, 1867, Sir Alvin B. Alden, Grand Commander, presiding, and seven Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is a very creditable production. He states that peace and harmony prevail throughout his jurisdiction, and that the Order is in a prosperous condition—150 candidates having received the Orders of Knighthood during the past year. He reports that he visited every Commandery, paying most of them an official visit, and giving such instructions in the ritual and drill as time and circumstances would permit. He recommends that the minimum fee for conferring the Orders be increased to a sum not less than fifty dollars, and remarks:

A rapid increase of numbers falls far short of convincing me that the Orders of Christian Knighthood are in a flourishing condition, and in my judgment we should pause and reflect well before we too hastily add to our list of membership, carefully scanning all material presented and accepting none but such as are worthy and well qualified and will prove faithful to the trust reposed in them.

The deaths of Past Grand Master Sir W. B. Hubbard, Sir Anthony O'Sullivan of Missouri, and three Sir Knights of his own jurisdiction are also noticed in feeling and appropriate terms.

A pleasant episode occurred during the session. Sir Knight A. B. Alden, on behalf of the Grand Commandery, presented a testimonial, in the shape of a beautiful silver tea set, to P. G. C. Sir Henry L. Palmer, the present Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, as a token of the affection and esteem entertained for him by the Sir Knights of Wisconsin. In the course of his remarks, Sir Knight Alden paid a beautiful tribute to the zeal, fidelity and eminent services rendered by the distinguished recipient in the cause of Templar Masonry.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Sir Emmons Taylor. It reviews the proceedings of eleven Grand Commanderies, including our own for 1866, and is an excellent paper—carefully prepared, courteous in tone, and evincing throughout a true appreciation of the teachings of our Order.

A resolution was adopted requiring the Grand Commander, either in person or by proxy, "to visit each subordinate Commandery in the State, at least once in each year, and devote at least one day to the instruction of the officers and members thereof in the ritual, tactics and drill of the several Orders of Knighthood."

The returns show seven Commanderies in this jurisdiction, with a total membership of 461.

Sir Alvin B. Alden, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir William T. Palmer, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

GENERAL REMARKS.

We regret that the non-receipt of the proceedings of Georgia, Iowa, Mississippi, New Hampshire and New Jersey prevents us from presenting a full and complete report to the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction. A perusal of those received, however, affords the gratifying intelligence that everywhere the Templar banner is floating proudly in the breeze—that the popularity and prosperity of our Order is on the increase—that not a single discordant note is heard to mar the general harmony that prevails—and that not one case calling for discipline is reported. For these signal favors bestowed upon us, we should reverently bow the knee and exclaim

Non nobis Domine! Non nobis, sed Nomini tuo da Gloriam!

Ohio has fallen into line, and Massachusetts alone retains a nomenclature and titles at variance with the requirements of the Grand Encampment of the United States. We hope the day is not far distant when her Sir Knights, abandoning a position which only sullies the lustre of their fame, will consider it an honor to yield a ready and willing obedience to the Grand Constitution.

The discussion between Massachusetts and Pennsylvania has become exceedingly interesting. The mere question of seniority would have attracted little attention out of the two jurisdictions, were it not that the discussion has brought to light many facts connected with the introduction of Templar Masonry into the United States, and the fabrication of the present ritual. The main questions at issue were noticed in our report of last year, but as the subject of the ritual will be brought before the Grand Encampment at its next triennial session, we give both sides of the question, as presented in the able and elaborate reports of Sir Knights Creigh and Gardner. Before entering upon this important subject, we will notice a few facts connected with the introduction of Templar Masonry upon this continent.

The first Grand Encampment ever organized in the United States was established in Philadelphia, May 12, 1797, by representatives from Philadelphia Encampments Nos. 1 and 2, No. 3 of Harrisburg, and No. 4 of Carlisle. It appears, however, that these subordinates did not work under charters derived from any Grand Templar Body. On the contrary, in answer to the question, Whence did they derive their authority? Sir Knight Creigh answers, "under a Blue Lodge Warrant," and adds:

They also exercised the power to confer every Masonic degree; in fact, the preambles to the by-laws of those early Encampments speak very significantly when they use this language: "The undersigned Knights of the Temple, being desirous of participating in those glorious rights and privileges enjoyed by our valiant ancestors from *time immemorial*, have resolved to form an Encampment for that purpose, being duly authorized and commanded to do so by the sublime warrant under which we work." What warrant? The warrant of the Lodge. As early as February, 1779, we find that Col. Thomas Proctor, W. M. of Lodge No. 2, was knighted on account of his eminent military and Masonic services, under the charter of Lodge No. 2, and that Col. Park, P. M. of a Lodge in Connecticut, addressed a Masonic ode to Col. Proctor, as a Knight Templar. Year by year, we have the evidence of the Orders of Knighthood being conferred under Lodge warrants until 1797, when the Grand Encampment of Pennsylvania was organized. Under the old system, the Worshipful Master "had the right and authority of calling his Lodge, or *congregating* the members into a Chapter." Hence, Masonic degrees were conferred under a Blue Lodge warrant.

The same system prevailed in Massachusetts. Sir Knight Gardner says that Masonry was established in America in 1733, and finds that thirty-six years afterwards the Templar's degree was conferred in the city of Boston, and that he has every reason to believe that it existed there some years previously. We quote:

Your committee have examined the ancient records of St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter in the city of Boston, and find that at the first meeting mentioned in its records this Order was conferred. These records commence with the date of August 28, 1769, with the body in full and perfect organization. Everything previous to this has been lost; and this Chapter has now no means of fixing its original organization, and consequently dates its existence from this time. But it is apparent from an examination of the records, that there was a previous volume. The following is an extract from the record of the first meeting of which there is any existing knowledge: "At a Royal Arch Lodge, held at Masons' Hall, Boston, New England, August 28, 1769, * * * the petition of Br. William Davis coming before the Lodge, begging to have and receive the parts belonging to a Royal Arch Mason, which being read, was received, and he unanimously voted in, and was accordingly made by receiving the four steps;—that of an Excellent, Super-Excellent, Royal Arch, and Knight Templar." This body held regular meetings until March 26, 1773, when troubles coming on which resulted in the Revolutionary War, it was temporarily closed, and was not opened until March 20, 1789, when it resumed its labors.

Numerous entries to the same effect are quoted from these records down to March, 1795, after which the words "Knight Templar" no longer appear, and a new code of by-laws was adopted June 15, 1796, in which "Knight Templar" was omitted. An Encampment of Knights Templar was established at Newburyport in 1795, and Sir Knight Gardner supposes this was the result of a committee of conference appointed by St. Andrew's Chapter and the Chapter at Newburyport, for the purpose of obtaining the consent of the Royal Arch Lodges, as they were then called, to relinquish the right to confer the Templar degree and consent to the establishment of the Encampment.

Sir Knight Gardner states that the first mention of "Knights of the Red Cross" which he has been able to find in America, is in the following extract from the records of St. Andrew's Chapter, under date of February 8, 1797: "Voted, That the Knights of the Red Cross, by Benjamin Hurd, Jr., be, and they hereby are permitted to make their records in the books of this Chapter."

The Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island was estab-

lished May 6, 1805, by a convention of Knights Templar from Newburyport Encampment, St. John's Encampment, and Boston Encampment, and Sir Knight Gardner admits "They were each and all voluntary associations, organized without legal authority from any Templar Grand Body."

It is not our purpose to enter into the merits of the controversy between Massachusetts and Pennsylvania on the question of seniority, but we deemed it necessary to show in what manner Templar Masonry was introduced and organized in the United States before proceeding with an examination of the question of the work and ritual. As Massachusetts claims the parentage of the present system, it is proper that she should be heard first. Sir Knight Gardner says:

It is probably impossible to determine, with absolute precision, what was the ritual in "St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge." There are reasons, however, which induce the belief that when originally introduced into that Lodge, it was the same ritual, substantially, now used by the "Grand Conclave of the Royal Exalted Religious and Military Order of Masonic Knights Templar in England and Wales." * * * *

Whatever this ritual was which "St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge" used, from whence it came, or by whom it was introduced, it is evident that there was no regular body to care for and preserve it, or save it from constant changes. The "Templar's degree" was considered an honorary degree only. It is so called in the records of "St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge," above quoted.

After stating that the Templar ritual now in use in the United States and the English ritual, when compared, will be found to bear intrinsic evidence of a common origin, Sir Knight Gardner proceeds to reply to the objections raised by Sir Alfred Creigh, and gives the following account of the manner in which the present ritual was manufactured:

While Gleason was in college at Providence, he became deeply interested in Masonry, and was advanced to the degree of Knight Templar. He thus became acquainted with Webb and Fowle, two of the most zealous Masonic students in this part of the country. Their attention was early directed to the Templar ritual then in use, and it appeared to them necessary for its success, that it should be modified and arranged in such a manner as to adapt it to the use of Encampments. They accordingly revised it, each doing his share of the labor. But little was added. That part known as the "soliloquy" was prepared by Gleason, and was entirely new. Webb and Fowle had more to do with arranging the work and details. Both being accomplished, effective workmen, and knowing what was required, they were able to give to the ritual all that was needed in these particulars. When the work was completed, the lectures were prepared. Thus were they arranged in systematic form, as the lectures of the Lodge and Chapter had been before. Prepared and adopted, this ritual superseded the old work. Encampments could be established, and a uniform, fixed ritual could be entrusted to them. Thus originated the Templar ritual in use throughout the United States.

The essence of the English ritual is preserved in the new one. It is better adapted for the purposes of work, more effective, gives instruction in a much more forcible manner, and is more comprehensive than the English ritual. Its tone is more elevated, and it is better suited to our system of instruction. The whole service is far superior, in our judgment, to the ritual which the Historiographer praises so much.

The Order of Malta, as early as 1797, as appears by Webb's "Monitor," was associated with the Order of the Temple. The English ritual, above referred to, retains a portion of what we include in the Order of Malta, viz: all that which relates to the unbelief of Thomas. It is evident that the distinguished fraters who modified the English ritual did nothing in reference to this. It

unquestionably stands just as it did in 1797. That portion relating to the shipwreck of St. Paul is peculiar to the Order. In this country it was associated with the Order of the Temple, and conferred in its asylums. It was never known as a distinct ceremonial until very recently. In 1838, when one of your committee (Sir Charles W. Moore) was Commander of Boston Encampment, he prepared a separate ritual for this Order, for the use of his Encampment. His only purpose was to give a distinct form and ceremony to the few incidents of the Order, and it was not his object to have it adopted or used elsewhere. In 1840, this Grand Encampment approved of it, and directed its subordinates to make use of it. Since then it has received the approval of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

With reference to the Knight of the Red Cross, Sir Knight Gardner says: "It is evident that this Order had its origin in the Scottish Rite; and it is probable that it was introduced into this country, substantially in its present form, directly from Ireland."

It will be seen from the above that, while admitting Webb and his associates tampered with the Templar ritual, it is claimed that the innovations are improvements which render the Massachusetts version far superior to the genuine one. This is virtually begging the whole question, but Sir Knight Gardner doubts the propriety of a return to the genuine work, and assigns the following reasons:

The Order of the Red Cross, to which the Historiographer is so averse, could not be erased from the Orders of Knighthood appendant to that of the Temple, without creating ill-feeling and discord in our harmonious assemblies. The ritual of the Templar Order can never be remodelled, as proposed by the learned Historiographer. His knowledge of this ritual must impress this fact upon him. Suffice it to say, that if the Grand Encampment of the United States was not prepared to accept the report of the learned committee on "Devotional Service," made by the V. E. Sir Robert McMurdy, Grand Prelate, at its sixteenth and last triennial Grand Convocation, then there is very strong reason to believe that that Grand Body would not favor the ritual which is now "practiced by the Grand Conclave of England and Wales." The objections raised against that service would operate with much more force against the proposed ritual.

Of the Order of Malta, it can with truth be said that we have no ritual. The Grand Encampment of the United States, for want of any, has adopted the brief ceremonial used in this jurisdiction. The English ritual of this Order is not much favored by your committee. It remains, however, for the Grand Encampment, at some future triennial convocation, to examine into its merits; and if, upon calm and careful deliberation, it should be adopted, it is to be hoped that it would be universally acquiesced in throughout the jurisdiction.

It having been conceded that innovations have been made, and that we are not in possession of the true work, the question arises what is the true work, and whence is the genuine ritual derived? Sir Knight Creigh answers:

Your committee believe that the Order of Knights Templar was instituted in the year 1118, for the defence of the Holy Sepulchre and the protection of Christian Pilgrims; that from that time to the present it presents an unbroken history, showing upon its every page the solemn and avowed determination of the Sir Knights, in every country, to maintain the honor of religion and the principles of Knighthood, for chivalry was ever considered not only as a sacred ordinance, but a sacerdotal engagement, and a violation of any of the solemn vows of the fraternity was the highest reproach, and the offender received condign punishment. Hence the ceremonies of the reception of a candidate, through the instrumentality of a well prepared ritual, was of the most impressive character. The Prelate administered the vow, and the Grand Master

during the investiture deduced religious and moral truths from the Knightly Arms, Cross, Mantle, etc.

The ritual has been transmitted through the secret archives of the Order, by the instrumentality of the Immemorial Encampments. These Encampments consisted of the Baldwyn Encampment at Bristol, the Antiquity Encampment at Bath, the Observance Encampment at London, the Ancient York Conclave of Redemption at Hull, and the Mount Calvary or Early Grand Encampment at London. These Encampments are styled "Immemorial," having existed prior to the formation of the Grand Conclave of England and Wales.

The learned Dr. Mackey, in his Lexicon, says: "The Encampment of Baldwyn was established by the Templars who returned with Richard I. from Palestine, and still continues to hold its regular meetings; and is believed to have preserved the ancient costume and ceremonies of the Order. From these Immemorial Encampments have emanated the existing Encampments in the British Islands and in the United States, so that the Order, as it now exists in Britain and America, is a lineal descendant of the ancient Order.

After citing other authorities to corroborate the above statement, Sir Knight Creigh proceeds to consider the claims of the English ritual, which runs so far back into the history of time that there is no means of ascertaining its precise date. He says the Grand Conclave of England and Wales was formed June 24, 1791, and derived its ritual from the Immemorial Encampments; that the constitution and ritual were confirmed April 10, 1809, by the Duke of Kent, the Grand Patron of the Order, and that this ritual is still "pertinaciously adhered to as the genuine and correct work of our Fathers." It is unnecessary for our purpose to quote this portion of Sir Knight Creigh's report, as Massachusetts concedes the ritual has been "Americanized," and Sir John W. Simons says: "the only similarity between that [the English ritual] and the system practiced on this continent (save in Canada) is in the name. We therefore come to the conclusion of the report, which is an appeal to the Grand Encampment of the United States to restore the ancient work and abandon the present ritual, and quote its closing paragraphs:

Your committee do not design to impugn the motives of any Sir Knight in defence of the present heterogeneous ritual, but we would be distinctly and unequivocally understood as declaring that our duty to ancient Knighthood—to its ritual, rules and ceremonies—to the memory of our fathers—to ourselves—to posterity, and, above and beyond all, to our solemn vows; all, all require that we should abandon a ritual which was manufactured in Massachusetts, by Webb and his associates, and foisted upon the General Grand Encampment in 1816, at its organization, by the very Sir Knights who manufactured it. If, during the half century which the Grand Encampment of the United States has existed, error has been perpetrated through ignorance, it is to be regretted; but when light becomes manifest, and darkness itself shines through the light, our duty—our Knighthood—our obligations compel us to claim from the Grand Encampment of the United States a return to the ancient ritual—the ritual now used, and which has been used by the Immemorial Encampments even before the organization of the Grand Conclave of England, in 1791, and transmitted to the present period.

Sir Knights of the United States, the questions are now before you, and we confidently rely on your intelligence, and respect for the ancient landmarks, to give this subject the consideration which its importance demands—and instruct your representatives to vote for a return to the ancient ritual.

There is much interesting matter in these valuable reports which we have omitted to notice. Our object has been to present a fair and impartial statement of the question at issue. It is conceded by both parties that we are not

in possession of the true work. Massachusetts, however, considers the innovations of Webb and his associates, improvements on the English ritual, which Pennsylvania is anxious to have restored in our Commanderies. The subject will engage the attention of the Grand Encampment at the coming triennial session, and whatever action is then taken will, we trust, be cheerfully acquiesced in and receive a loyal support from the Sir Knights of every jurisdiction. In the meantime, while we fully appreciate the noble stand taken by our Pennsylvania fraters in this matter, we doubt the propriety of attempting to enforce any sudden or sweeping change. The present system has been practiced so long that to abandon it at once would, we are afraid, produce discord and wrangling, and thus prove fatal to our Order. But if the English ritual, or at least so much of it as would place our Sir Knights in possession of the true work, was ordered to be conferred in our asylums, it would enable them to gain admission into bodies of our Order out of the United States, and thus pave the way for the restoration of the ancient ritual and a complete uniformity between the ceremonies of the American and English Templars.

The Grand Commandery of Missouri has passed some very stringent resolutions against the A. and A. Rite, based upon a correspondence between its R. E. Commander, Sir Knight Gouley, and Bro. Albert Pike, Sov. Grand Commander of the A. and A. Rite. The original question at issue is thus stated by Sir Knight Gouley, in a letter addressed to Bro. Pike:

I must be frank, and say that I do not consider your explanation about receiving M. M., and conferring upon them the words, secrets, ritual, etc., of various Masonic bodies, and of the Commandery in particular, (which immediately demands my attention,) as satisfactory. You say that the Supreme Council itself cannot change that. I cannot see why—as it most assuredly has no law to govern it that it has not itself made, and hence can repeal or alter it. As for the Secret Constitutions, I do not think you propose to rest upon them as of any force whatever, analyzed and dissected as they have been by the force of logic and history.

The fact that American Templarism does not fully accord with that on the continent of Europe, and in France, does not strike me as of any force against the right of Grand Commanderies in the United States. Here we are supreme and sovereign in our own jurisdiction, and it matters not how much we may differ from others in Europe, one thing we do know, viz: that if Templarism is anything but a mockery, it is Christian; and if it is not so everywhere, it is because its ritual has been manipulated by degree manufacturers. If the Crusades were *cosmopolitan*, all the historians I have read have been greatly deceived. The Council, Chapter and Commandery work of the A. and A. S. Rite, as communicated to me, and which I have since read, most certainly reveals secrets that cannot be tolerated by governing bodies of the same, and if any Jew can take your degrees and keep the *feasts*, etc., he must belong to the “hickory” family.

Now, my Dear Sir and Brother, what I want to arrive at is this—that the A. and A. S. Rite receive none into the Lodge of Perfection except R. A. M., and none in the Council except K. T. The latter point I must insist on, leaving the Grand Chapter to define its own right, which no doubt it will at next session.

In his answer to this communication, Bro. Pike, after expressing great surprise at the proposition made by Sir Knight Gouley, says:

It seems to me somewhat extraordinary that among all the eminent Masons who have received the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, there

should be no one, so far as I know, except yourself, to whom it has occurred that in conferring the degrees of that Rite we were revealing to Master Masons the secrets of Royal Arch Masonry and the American Templarism. I am sure that I have been quite unconscious of the commission of so grave an offence, although I am a Templar, and have held the office of Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas.

Bro. Pike then proceeds to give the names of a number of prominent Masons who are members of the A. and A. Rite, and adds: "I am sure that not one of all these ever suspected that in propagating the Scottish Rite he was encroaching upon the dominion of either Royal Arch Masonry or Templarism." In rejecting the proposition of Sir Knight Gouley, Bro. Pike remarks:

I cannot see either that we, in giving our degrees, reveal any of the secrets of any other Rite or degrees, or that the Royal Arch, Red Cross, or Templar degrees reveal any of ours. If any of the signs, words, and legends in both Rites are identical, I never heard that any one was told, when receiving them in one degree or Rite, that they were also the signs, words and legends of other degrees in another Rite. Merely to repeat in the Royal Arch degree the legend of a degree of the Scottish Rite, merely to give in the Templar degree a sign or a word common to that degree and to a degree of the Scottish Rite, is not to reveal any secret of the latter. Legends, words and signs cannot, in the nature of things, be the exclusive property of any Rite or degree.

The question at issue is here clearly presented, and, in our opinion, afforded no reasonable ground for controversy. It is to be regretted that irrelevant matters were introduced, and that Bro. Pike, not satisfied with stating that he was not "encroaching upon the dominion of either R. A. Masonry or Templarism," proceeds to attack both. He says, "the A. and A. Scottish Rite gives no secrets, communicates no signs and words, and repeats no legends, except such as are its own. So far as the R. A. degree or that of Knight Templar have any of these in common with it, it has borrowed them from our Rite." Claiming an antiquity of about one hundred years for the Rite of Perfection, in twenty-five degrees—the ground work of the A. and A. Rite, in thirty-three degrees—he intimates that the Royal Arch, Red Cross and American Templar were made out of that Rite. It is not our province to notice his remarks on the Royal Arch, nor is it necessary to quote at length his strictures on the "Order of the Temple"—a few sentences will suffice. He says: "Nine-tenths of the Scottish Rite Masons in the world know nothing about Royal Arch and Templar Masonry. Nobody recognizes them on the continent of Europe or South America." "The Templar degree, preposterously succeeding a Hebrew one, is a Christian degree, an Order of Knighthood, and not part of Masonry." "*We do not recognize the Knights Templar of America as Templars. The Kadosh degree is to us the only Templar degree.*" "I would not, for reasons which I do not deem it necessary to state, advise or be instrumental in procuring any man to receive the Templar degree. *You may find my reasons in the ceremony itself.*" After this comes the declaration: "I am very weary of controversies in Masonry, do not desire to engage in any more, and, with entire respect for your opinion, cannot see a plausible ground for any in this case."

There is another point. Sir Knight Gouley said, in his letter, "I, along with every Mason in Missouri, regard the first four bodies as paramount to all others, and demand our first service." Bro. Pike replies: "I am not aware that there is anything in the obligations of the degrees of the A. and A. Rite which conflicts with those of Chapter or Templar Masonry. * * * I

do not know, either, that any one obligation, solemnly taken, is inferior to any other. There *can* be no obligation paramount to that of a Kadosh." Besides, Bro. Pike calls Sir Knight Gouley's attention to the fact that he had sworn allegiance to the Supreme Council, and that "to dispute its jurisdiction in Missouri, or impede its progress there, would prove a very serious step for a Kadosh to take." After this threat, Bro. Pike courteously invites Sir Knight Gouley to assist with his "valuable services in extending among men of intellect capable of appreciating it" the A. and A. Rite.

Sir Knight Gouley replies to Bro. Pike, in a circular addressed to the Sir Knights of his jurisdiction, and brings the subject before the Grand Commandery of Missouri in his annual address. Both documents contain a fierce assault on the A. and A. Rite, which Sir Knight Gouley says "is well known to be just fifty-three years old," and therefore, "the Order of the Temple, which has existed in this country alone for nearly eighty years, and in Europe, in one form or another, for over seven hundred years," could not have borrowed any thing from it. After tracing the history of our Order from its foundation to the martyrdom of Jacques de Molay, he adds:

In the roll of centuries, it is not strange if there should have occurred alterations in the ritual and ceremonies, especially as the Order has ceased its active operations upon the field, but that the grand frame-work of Commanderies, and the exalted characteristics of Templar devotion to the defence of "destitute widows, innocent maidens, helpless orphans, and the Christian religion," still remain in all their glory, cannot be denied. Commanderies were established in this country under the auspices of Lodges, which had their origin in the Grand Lodge of England, to whom the world is indebted for the preservation of Freemasonry in its original purity and character.

This brings Sir Knight Gouley to a consideration of the innovations introduced into Masonry by degree manufacturers. The career of Chevalier Ramsey, "a Jesuit priest by profession, and a conspirator by occupation," is graphically sketched. Unable to foist his system upon the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, he "found an easier market in Paris, and his hybrid degrees found customers, because the degrees were cheap and covered the recipients with ribbons, gewgaws and empty titles." * * * "From this time there was no peace for French Masonry; innovation followed innovation, and degrees followed degrees, until charters were sold on the street corners for two sous apiece, and dancing masters became Grand Masters of the ephemeral and illegal Grand Lodges." In regard to the Rite of Perfection, Sir Knight Gouley says: "It is only necessary to lift the veil of history and behold in that Rite a system of degrees ranging from seven to twenty-five, according to the market." He states that Stephen Morin imported this Rite into Charleston, improved it by inventing eight more degrees, terminating with the thirty-third and Sovereign Grand Inspector-General, wrote some 'secret constitutions' in mongrel Latin, and forged the signature of one 'Frederick' and five other strangers to the document." He quotes from these constitutions, which declare that the thirty-third and last "*governs and commands all the others, without exception.*" He looks upon this Rite as attempting "to secure the control of legitimate Masonry," and after referring to the assertion that its Kadosh is the only "true Templar" and that Bro. Pike does not recognize the Knights Templar of America, he submits the matter to the consideration of

the Grand Commandery, with certain recommendations, which were incorporated in the following resolutions, and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, This Grand Commandery views the antagonistic position of the said Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite to the principles of Masonic Knighthood, (as submitted by the R. E. Grand Commander,) and its repudiation of us as Templars and the substitution of one of its own degrees instead thereof, with an assertion of their authority and character as Templars; therefore,

Resolved, That, in vindication of the prerogatives of this Grand Body as the supreme authority over the Orders of Masonic Knighthood in this jurisdiction, it is hereby ordered that no Knight Templar, holding allegiance to the Grand Commandery of Missouri, can be present in any of the bodies of the said so-called Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite, and witness or assist in the conferring of any of their degrees upon any one who has not already received the Orders of Knighthood in a regularly constituted Commandery of Knights Templar.

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery is the supreme and only source of Templar Masonry in the State of Missouri, and has supreme and exclusive authority over the same, and in like manner as the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Council in their respective spheres; and that we repudiate any and all other bodies or organizations claiming authority to confer, or to authorize the conferring, of any of the orders of Templar Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction; that no organization can confer the orders of Templar Masonry in this State without a dispensation or charter from this Grand Commandery, and members acknowledging allegiance to this Grand Commandery are forbidden to have any Knightly or other Masonic intercourse with any organization claiming to exercise such authority.

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery re-asserts its strict adherence to the principles of legitimate Freemasonry, as taught and practiced by the Masonic family of the York Rite, viz: Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Council, and that we recognize the transactions of no other body of so-called Masons as legitimate.

In reply to Bro. Pike's threat, Sir Knight Gouley says:

It may be as well here to state that all the Templars here who took the degrees of his Rite took all the obligations with the expressed and open reservation that, wherever they conflicted with those already assumed, they were to be null and void; and having so conflicted, they are null and void. All covenants of secrecy are honorable and sacred, but to endeavor to fetter my will or my obedience to a solemn duty, by demanding my allegiance for a Supreme Council founded upon forged constitutions and in antagonism to that which I hold as sacred as my life—to-wit: pure Freemasonry and Christian knighthood—is simply to attempt the impossible.

But it is unnecessary to pursue the question further. I have a precedent for my repudiation in the illustrious Brother himself, who has also assumed the vows of a Templar; he has taken his choice which to serve and respect; he has enlisted under his banner of "philosophy;" but we have vowed to die under the "grand standard of the Cross." We "cannot serve God and Mammon."

We deprecate the whole controversy, and the spirit in which it has been conducted. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones. Neither the innovations introduced into the American system by Webb and his associates, nor the extravagant pretensions of the A. and A. Rite can be successfully defended. If any good is to result from a discussion of the merits of the two systems—the discussion must be conducted in a fraternal and courteous manner. The present controversy appears to have arisen from the active exertions of the propagandists of the A. and A. Rite to extend its influence. As the Foreign Rite has never surrendered its assumed control over the symbolic degrees, but merely waived it in favor of the Grand Lodges, many

prominent Masons look upon it with a jealous eye, and fears are entertained that it will attempt to obtain the control of legitimate Masonry. We think such fears are unfounded, but that a rivalry exists between the A. and A. Rite and the American system of Masonry in obtaining candidates for the so-called higher degrees, is not to be denied. Still, as Templars, we have no more control over the Foreign Rite than we have over any of the imitative societies of the day. Hence, we question the propriety of the stringent resolutions adopted by the Grand Commandery of Missouri. We do not agree with Sir Knight Gouley that our secrets are revealed in the bodies of the A. and A. Rite. The Order of the Temple is founded on the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues—the A. and A. Rite is based on “philosophy,” and has nothing in common with the divine principles inculcated in our asylums. We therefore consider it of very little consequence whether Bro. Pike recognizes us or not, and think his claim for the Kadosh as the “only Templar” not entitled to serious consideration; but, as Templars, we repudiate the assertion that “there can be no obligation paramount to those of a Kadosh.” Besides, if there is not “anything in the obligations of the degrees of the A. and A. Rite which conflicts with those of Chapter or Templar Masonry,” still, Masonry is a voluntary institution, and a brother who has taken the degrees of both Rites must be permitted to exercise his own judgment in deciding which of the two systems he will prefer. An attempt to hold those who have taken the degrees of the Foreign Rite to an allegiance which they *may* consider antagonistic to their previous obligations, will defeat the object for which it is intended, and awaken a renewed zeal and attention to the interests of the American system, of which the Templar is the crowning glory. It will cause the scales to drop from the eyes of the Sir Knights who have been glamourised by the glare of tinsel decorations and cabalistic figures, and they will devote all their energies to advancing and defending the glorious Banner of the Cross.

IN CONCLUSION—We have endeavored to present an impartial view of the condition of our Order. The true knightly spirit which characterizes the addresses of Grand Commanders and the reports of committees merits all commendation, and we gratefully acknowledge the kind and fraternal notices which have been bestowed on our proceedings, and trust we may ever prove worthy of the knightly greetings extended to us. Rejoicing in the prosperity and harmony which prevail throughout the entire jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, we hope that each revolving year may more closely cement the golden chain which unites us under one Supreme Head. Bearing aloft the glorious Banner of the Cross, let us emulate the Templars of old in devotion to the interests of our Order; let us guard well the portals of our asylums, so that neither the profligate, the intemperate, nor the profane may gain admission, and thus render ourselves worthy of the name we bear and the cause in which we are enlisted.

Courteously submitted,

JAMES B. SCOT,

for the Committee.

The R. E. Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing Masonic year, E. Sirs James Stafford and Alfred E. Billings acting as tellers—with the following result:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SIR FULGENCE RICAU..... | R. E. Grand Commander. |
| " JOSEPH P. HORNOR..... | V. E. do |
| " JOHN A. STEVENSON..... | E. Grand Generalissimo. |
| " WM. R. WHITAKER..... | E. Grand Captain General. |
| " H. R. SWASEY..... | E. Grand Prelate. |
| " WM. McDUFF..... | E. Grand Senior Warden. |
| " T. A. BARTLETTE..... | E. Grand Junior Warden. |
| " EMANUEL BLESSEY..... | E. Grand Treasurer. |
| " ALFRED E. BILLINGS..... | E. Grand Recorder. |
| " JAMES B. SCOT..... | E. Grand Standard Bearer. |
| " JAMES STAFFORD..... | E. Grand Sword Bearer. |
| " JOSEPH R. TURCK..... | E. Grand Warder. |
| " STEPHEN S. SELLECK..... | E. Grand Captain of the Guards. |

Sir Samuel M. Todd, the R. E. Grand Commander, then proceeded to and did install the above named Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year in DUE and AMPLE form.

On motion of E. Sir Joseph P. Hornor, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies; and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Commander for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated to E. Sir Knight Grand Recorder, and ten dollars to E. Sir Knight Grand Captain of the Guards, for services rendered.

On motion of E. Sir W. C. Driver, it was,

Resolved, That article X of the by-laws of this Grand Commandery be repealed.

On motion of E. Sir Wm. McDuff, action on this resolution was postponed until next Wednesday evening.

The R. E. Grand Commandery was then adjourned until Wednesday evening next, at 7 o'clock.

ALFRED E. BILLINGS,

Grand Recorder.

ADJOURNED SESSION.

An adjourned conclave of the R. E. Grand Commandery K. T. of the State of Louisiana, was holden at the Asylum of Orleans Commandery No. 3, Grand Lodge Hall, Wednesday evening, February 19th, A. D. 1868, A. O. 750, the following

OFFICERS PRESENT :

SIR FULGENCE RICAU,.....R. E. Grand Commander.
 “ JOS. P. HORNOR,.....V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.
 “ J. A. STEVENSON,.....E. Grand Generalissimo.
 “ WM. R. WHITAKER,.....E. Grand Captain General.
 “ HY. R. SWASEY,.....E. Grand Prelate.
 “ WM. McDUFF,.....E. Grand Senior Warden.
 “ T. A. BARTLETTE,.....E. Grand Junior Warden.
 “ EMANUEL BLESSEY,.....E. Grand Treasurer.
 “ ALFRED E. BILLINGS,.....E. Grand Recorder.
 “ JAMES B. SCOT,.....E. Grand Standard Bearer.
 “ JAMES STAFFORD,.....E. Grand Sword Bearer.
 “ JOSEPH R. TURCK,.....E. Grand Warden.
 “ STEPHEN S. SELLECK,.....E. Grand Captain of the Guards.
 Also, the P. R. E. Grand Commander Sir Saml. M. Todd; P. E. C. Sir M. A. Calongne, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1; P. E. C. Sir J. B. Robertson, of Jacques De Molay Commandery No. 2; P. E. C. Sir Thos. Cripps, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The R. E. Grand Commander then added Sir James B. Scot, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2, and Sir W. C. Driver, of Orleans Commandery No. 3, to the Committee on Credentials and Returns.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns then submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Credentials beg leave to report the following Sir Knights as entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery as legal representatives :

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Sir James Stafford, E. C., A. Brown, proxy ; Sir W. McDuff, G., Geo. Baldey, proxy ; Sir F. H. Knapp, C. G., O. J. Donnella, proxy.

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Sir Sam'l M. Todd, E. C., Henry Hamburger, proxy ; Sir J. A. Stevenson, G., Dan'l E. Scruggs, proxy ; Sir J. R. Turek, C. G., C. W. Newton, proxy.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Sir W. C. Driver, E. C.; Wm. R. Whitaker, G., G. H. King, proxy; Jas. E. McBeth, C. G.

Courteously submitted,

WM McDUFF,
JAMES B. SCOT,
WM. C. DRIVER.

The roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS No. 1.

JACQUES DE MOLAY No. 2.

ORLEANS No. 3.

On motion of Sir Knight Todd, the reading of the records of last conclave was dispensed with.

On motion of the same Sir Knight, P. R. E. Grand Commander J. Q. A. Fellows was appointed to take the necessary steps to recover from the estate of our deceased Sir Knight Edwards the amount he owed this Grand Commandery, at the time of his death.

The adoption of the resolution laid over from conclave of 14th inst. was then moved, which, failing to receive the necessary two thirds vote, was declared lost.

Sir James B. Scot submitted the following resolution, which, on motion, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the action of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania in donating two hundred dollars for the amelioration of the distress existing in this jurisdiction is appreciated by the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, as an evidence of the fraternal feelings which actuate the Sir Knights of the Keystone State; and in returning our sincere and heartfelt thanks for the generous gift, which, coming as it did, in the midst of the late epidemic, materially assisted the cause for which it was intended, we also desire to express our earnest wishes for the continued prosperity of our fraters of Pennsylvania.

On motion of E. Sir Knight Todd, one hundred dollars were appropriated towards defraying the expenses of the representatives of this Grand Commandery to the triennial conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, to be holden in Saint Louis September next.

The Grand Commandery then received from the Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge Hall an invitation to be present and assist in the consecration of the Masonic Cemetery in April next.

On motion of E. Sir J. P. Hornor, the invitation was accepted.

E. Sir T. A. Bartlette then moved that Art. 1 of the By-laws of this Grand Commandery be amended so as to read third Monday instead of Friday after the second Monday.

On ballot, the motion was lost.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following as the Committee on Correspondence:

SIR JAMES B. SCOT, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

SIR M. A. CALONGNE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN AND KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next annual conclave, on Friday, February 12, A. D. 1869, A. O. 751.

FULGENCE RICAU,
Grand Commander.



ATTEST:

ALFRED E. BILLINGS,
Grand Recorder.

ANNUAL RETURNS

OF

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES,

FOR THE YEAR 1867.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th, A. D. 1844.

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Original Charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York,
May 4th, A. D. 1816, A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America,
September 10th, A. D. 1844.

OFFICERS FOR THE PRESENT YEAR.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Sir James Stafford..... | E. C. | Sir P. Williams..... | Treasurer. |
| " Wm. McDuff..... | G. | " M. A. Calongne..... | Recorder. |
| " F. H. Knapp.... | C. G. | " O. J. Donnella..... | St. Bearer. |
| " R. Lambert..... | Prelate. | " J. W. Maguire..... | Sw. Bearer. |
| " Felix Rice..... | S. W. | " Angel Martin.... | Warder. |
| " A. Brown..... | J. W. | " J. L. Daussat.... | Sentinel. |

PAST E. COMMANDERS.

Fulgence Ricau, M. A. Calongne, F. W. Delesdenier, T. A. Bartlette.

MEMBERS.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Allabaugh, J. R. | Breen, Hugh | Clarke, Geo. H. |
| Aubert, L. C. | Beebe, O. H. | Cain L. P. |
| Barrow, R. H. | Buchanan, H. | Carraher, Pat. |
| Beney, L. | Cage, D. S. | Chandler, J. Ben. |
| Broué, J. B. | Constantini, Honorary | Czarnowski, Oscar |
| Broas, Smith | Costa, Antonio | Crawford, J. D. |
| Burden, Thos. | Campbell, A. | Davis, Warren |
| Baker, John | Clark, John | Davis, James |

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Dodge, L. W. | Garret, A. G. | O'Dowd, J. |
| Dodge, L. J. | Harvey, J. H. | Philson, J. |
| Durand, N. | Hatch, F. H. | Rooney, John |
| Durrive, Jules | Henningsen, J. C. | Rivera, P. Nap. |
| Dias, J. A. | Heron, A. C. | Soulé, Geo. |
| DeLucas, Bruno | Hinton, Isaac T. | Schuerman, H. A. |
| Diamond, R. E. | Hillman, A. | Sheehan, Thos. |
| Day, J. M. | Ivens, E. M. | Scott, John K. |
| Duncan, J. E. | Kells, Chas. E. | Starr, Wm. |
| Evans, R. J. | Kellett, John | Tucker, A. L. |
| Ellsworth, O. | Long, D. A. | Thomas, Chas. |
| Ferrier, A. | Lafon, René | Viosca, J. Sr. |
| Fisse, Jean | McCulloch, Wm. | Wood, J. C. |
| Fleming, J. G. | Noyes, O. J. | Williams, Peter |
| Ferranti, Theop. | Nelson, J. M. | Zeigler, Joseph |
| Goetz, C. | Ochiglevich, J. | Total—86. |

ORDERS CONFERRED.—O. Ellsworth, A. Brown.

DEMITTED.—T. Carroll, R. L. Bruce, F. Holyland, S. J. Flatow.

DIED—A. S. Ferth, Erastus Wells.

JACQUES DeMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 25th,
A. D. 1851, A. O. 733.

OFFICERS FOR 1868.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sir Samuel Manning Todd.....E. C. | Sir Emanuel Blessey.....Treasurer. |
| " John Alexander Stevenson.....G. | " Gustavus Sontag.....Recorder. |
| " Joseph R. Turck.....C. G. | " Chas. W. Newton.....St. Bearer. |
| " James B. Scot.....Prelate. | " F. Holyland.....Sw. Bearer. |
| " Rufus L. Bruce.....Sr. W. | " W. E. Fitzgerald.....Warder. |
| " Hermann T. Schilling.....Jr. W. | " R. S. Burk (not a member).Sent. |

PAST E. COMMANDERS.

W. W. Johnson, John B. Robertson, Henry R. Swasey, Sam'l M. Todd,

MEMBERS.

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Addison, Ashford | Fuller, Charles A. | Pearce, Joseph |
| Amesbury, J. O. | Foote, Alexis Smith | Pike, Zebulon M. |
| Berwick, Nathan, | Gordy, John C. | Pike, Wm. S. |
| Bockius, Jacob M. | Glennon, Robert | Perkins, Wm. M. |
| Bell, Wm. Robt. | Galpin, John | Rhinehart, B. F. |
| Batchelor, James C. | Hasam, Thomas | Ramelli, D. S. |
| Bothick, Thos. W. | Hawkins, John | Regenburg, Henry |
| Bevan, John | Hamburger, Henry | Race, Geo. W. |
| Barnett, Edward | Jones, John W. | Selleck, S. S. |
| Betterton, W. G. | King, George Howard | Smith, John C. |
| Beattie, Wm. | Lane, Lafayette N. | Scruggs, D. E. |
| Bennett, Philip | Long, H. W. | Santini, Joseph |
| Buckner, Simon Bolivar | Logan, Joseph G. | Tighe, Dan. E. |
| Carter, Albert G. | Lunn, Thomas | Van Horn, Thaddeus D. |
| Clarke, Joseph D. | McNeil, Alexander | Whann, Wm. Jr. |
| Craig, Emmet D. | Monroe, John T. | Winslow, Moses |
| Chambers, Wm. A. | Mitchell, D. F. | Weber, Wm. |
| Cheeseborough, Jas. B. | Murray, Thomas | Wang, Fred. |
| Churchill, C. H. | McGuffy, H. | Ward, John |
| Chase, C. H. | McClure, John Elliott | Webster, L. J. |
| Carroll, Timothy | Mason, Wm. J. | Wynne, C. E. |
| Darden, R. G. | Maybin, Wm. | Wilner, J. C. |
| Dunn, James B. | Mandal, Peter E. | Williams, W. L. |
| Douglass, James A. | McWilliams, John G. | Yorke, Edward A. |
| DeGrange, Joseph H. | Macon, Thos. L. | Total—88. |

ORDERS CONFERRED.—Charles W. Newton, Geo. H. King, Wm. E. Fitzgerald, Hy. Hamburger, John W. Jones, John G. McWilliams, Chas. E. Wynne, T. D. Van Horn, George W. Race, James C. Wilner, W. L. Williams, Simon B. Buckner, Thomas L. Macon.

AFFILIATED.—R. L. Bruce, Timothy Carroll, Lowell W. Fletcher, Fred. Holyland.

DIED.—W. H. Dosson, in 1862; J. H. Huckins, Jas. B. Smith, G. G. Willson, L. W. Fletcher.

REINSTATED.—John C. Gordy.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, September 4th,
A. D. 1862, A. O. 744.

OFFICERS FOR 1868.

| | | | |
|------------------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Sir Wm. C. Driver..... | E. C. | Sir Simon F. Monroe. ✓ | Treasurer. |
| " Wm. R. Whitaker..... | G. | " Alfred E. Billings. ✓ | Recorder. |
| " Jas. E. McBeth..... | C. G. | " R. W. Stanley..... | St. Bearer. |
| " John G. Dunlap..... | Prelate. | " W. S. Tomlin..... | Sw. Bearer. |
| " Thomas Cripps..... | S. W. | " J. H. Clark..... | Warder. |
| " George Baldey..... | J. W. | " Raymond S. Buck..... | Sentinel. X |

PAST E. COMMANDERS.

W. P. Coleman, J. Q. A. Fellows, ✓ Joseph P. Hornor, ✓ Thos. Cripps.

MEMBERS.

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Andrews, E. P. ✓ | Friend, Thomas ✓ | Pilcher, Mason ✓ |
| Atlee, Wm. G. ✓ | Gardner, L. H. ✓ | Pierce, H. D. ✓ |
| Baldwin, Albert ✓ | Gilman, S. H. ✓ | Read, Robert H. ✓ |
| Blake, Geo. A. ✓ | Girard, M. E. ✓ | Rusha, E. M. ✓ |
| Bullitt, Cuthbert ✓ | Hays, H. T. ✓ | Robinson, N. T. N. ✓ |
| Campbell, Benj. ✓ | Hall, G. Alfred ✓ | Shaw, Alfred ✓ |
| Carroll, R. W. W. ✓ | Hildreth, D. M. ✓ | Seymour, Sam'l J. ✓ |
| Collins, John F. ✓ | Hunt, C. S. ✓ | Sizer, Geo. W. ✓ |
| Cooper, Wm. ✓ | Johnson, W. A. ✓ | Walsh, P. P. ✓ |
| Doane, Harmon ✓ | Leacock, W. T. ✓ | Watson, Robert ✓ |
| Estlin, Chas. T. ✓ | Levins, Christopher ✓ | Woods, Michael X |
| Frommeyer, W. H. ✓ | McGinnis, J. J. ✓ | Total—47. |

ORDERS CONFERRED.—Thomas Friend.

**LIST OF PAST GRAND OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS,
OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.**

| YEAR. | R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. | V. G. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER. | E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO. | E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. | E. GRAND PRELATE. | E. GRAND TREASURER. | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
|-------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1864 | Henry Rufus Swasey | J. Q. A. Fellows... | Fulgence Ricau... | Willis P. Coleman | John H. Holland* | Hosea Edwards* | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1865 | J. Q. A. Fellows.... | S. M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau.... | Willis P. Coleman. | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | Joseph P. Hornor. |
| 1866 | Sam'l M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau.... | J. P. Hornor..... | M. A. Calongne... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | Gus. Sontag. |
| 1867 | Sam'l M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau.... | J. P. Hornor..... | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | Gus. Sontag. |
| 1868 | Fulgence Ricau..... | J. P. Hornor..... | J. A. Stevenson... | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | Alfred E. Billings. |

*Dead.

BY-LAWS.

I. The Stated Meetings of this Grand Commandery shall be held in the City of New Orleans, on the Friday after the second Monday of February of each year.

II. The quorum for the transaction of business in this Grand Commandery shall be a majority of all the chartered Commanderies in this jurisdiction.

III. Each Commandery shall pay to the Grand Commandery five dollars for each Knight Templar created therein.

IV. The Grand Recorder shall receive ten dollars for each Charter, and five dollars for each Dispensation issued; and two dollars for signing, affixing seal, and certifying each Diploma issued by him, as fees of his office.

V. The Orders of Knighthood shall not be conferred for a less sum than fifty dollars.

VI. Each Subordinate Commandery shall make returns of its officers, members, and the Orders conferred during the year ending the 31st day of December, to the Grand Recorder, on or before the first Monday of February, of each year.

VII. Any Commandery which shall fail to make its returns and pay its dues, for two successive years, may, by a vote of the Grand Commandery, have its Charter declared forfeited.

VIII. The mode of proceeding in all cases of trials and appeals, and in receiving and voting upon petitions for the orders of Knighthood, shall conform, as near as may, to the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana.

IX. The Grand Commandery may revise, amend, add to or change these By-Laws, at any annual meeting, by a vote of two-thirds of those present.

X. Petitions for the Orders of Knighthood shall be received from no Companion, who does not produce evidence of having been for six months a Royal Arch Mason.

PROCEEDINGS

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.

OF THE

Grand Commandery

OF

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

AND APPENDANT ORDERS

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA.

AT ITS

SIXTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE,

NEW ORLEANS,

FEBRUARY 12th, 1869, A. O. 752.

New Orleans:

ISAAC T. HINTON, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER, 27 COMMERCIAL PLACE.

1869.

Freemasons. Louisiana. Knights Templars
Grand Commandery.
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND COMMANDERY

OF

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

AND APPENDANT ORDERS,

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA,

AT ITS

SIXTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE,

NEW ORLEANS,

February 12th, 1869, A. O. 752.

SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR.....R. E. GRAND COMMANDER.

SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....E. GRAND RECORDER.

NEW ORLEANS:

HINTON & EHREN, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS, 27 COMMERCIAL PLACE.

1869.

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SIXTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

AND APPENDANT ORDERS,

OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

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The R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at its Sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, City of New Orleans, on Friday, February 12th, A. D. 1869, A. O. 751, at 12 o'clock, M., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR FULGENCE RICAU.....R. E. Grand Commander.

“ JOSEPH P. HORNOR.....V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.

“ JOHN A. STEVENSON.....E. Grand Generalissimo.

“ WILLIAM R. WHITAKER.....E. Grand Captain General.

“ HENRY R. SWASEY.....E. Grand Prelate.

“ M. A. CALONGNE.....as E. Grand Senior Warden,

“ T. A. BARTLETTE.....E. Grand Junior Warden.

“ EMANUEL BLESSEY.....E. Grand Treasurer.

“ ALFRED E. BILLINGS.....E. Grand Recorder.

“ JAMES B. SCOT.....E. Grand Standard Bearer.

“ JAMES STAFFORD.....E. Grand Sword Bearer.

“ JOSEPH R. TURCK.....E. Grand Warder.

“ STEPHEN S. SELLECK .....E. Grand Captain of the Guards.

Also, SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS, P. R. E. G. Commander.

“ SAM'L MANNING TODD, P. R. E. G. Commander.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns:

SIR T. A. BARTLETTE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

“ H. HAMBURGER, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

“ ALFRED E. BILLINGS, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns then submitted the following Report, which was read and adopted:

*To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:*

Your Committee on Credentials and Returns beg leave to report the following Commanderies entitled to representation, and the following Sir Knights entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery, as legal representatives:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Sir Richard Lambert, E. C.; Hugh Breen, G.; F. Rice, C. G.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Sir Sam'l M. Todd, E. C., E. D. Craig, Proxy; John A. Stevenson, G., Gus. Sontag, Proxy; Jos. R. Turck, C. G., H. Hamburger, Proxy.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Sir Wm. R. Whitaker, E. C., W. L. Stanford, Proxy; Jas. E. McBeth, G.; Geo. Baldy, C. G.

Courteously submitted,

T. A. BARTLETTE,  
H. HAMBURGER,  
ALFRED E. BILLINGS.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS No. 1.

JACQUES DEMOLAY No. 2.

ORLEANS No. 3.

The R. E. Grand Commander then delivered the following

## ADDRESSE:

*A la Grande Commanderie des SS. Chevaliers Templiers de l'Etat de la Louisiane:*

E. SS. CHEVALIERS:

De nouveau assembles en conclave annuel dans cette Asile, pour delibérer sur les interets de notre Ordre en Louisiane, reunissons nous c'est autour du triangle et dans une fervente priere, remercions, le tout Puissant, de la grâce qu'il nous à accordée, en n'éclaircissant pas trop nos rangs, prions le de vouloir reprendre sur nous un doux rayon de cette lumineuse lumiere. Qu'elle nous éclaire, et que de son vif éclat rejaillisse sur nous la paix, la prosperité, le bonheur:

Avant de proceder à nos travaux payons un tribut de respect à la memoire de celui qui n'est plus: Willis P. Coleman, vieux guerrier de notre Ordre, P. E. Grand Capitaine Général de la Grande Commanderie de l'Etat, et P. E. Commandeur de Orleans Commanderie No. 3, ces qualites sont reconues, c'était un vaillant et courtois chevalier, respecté de tous ces Compagnons aussi sa campagne finie sur cette terre, il à été escorté par un detachement des SS. Chevaliers, au champ du repos, avec les honneurs dus à la vertu au merite.

Le rapport de mes devoirs officiels durent le reces de notre Eminent Grand Corps, est bref:

Sur invitation par le Board des Directeurs, de la T. Ill. Grande Loge de l'Etat de la Louisiane, pour assister a la consacration du cimetière magonnique, invitation acceptée a la dernière assemblée, de ce Grand Corps, et par nouvelle invitation du T. Ill. Grand Maitre Henry Rufus Swasey, de Grand Loge de l'Etat de la Louisiane; une assemblée fut convoqué pour s'entendre a cet effet, et en arreter les preliminaires, et le E. D. G. Commandeur fut nommé officier executif.

Le 24 Avril dernier, un detachement de 65, SS. Chevaliers, à cheval et en grand uniforme sous le commandement du D. G. Commandeur J. P. Hornor, ce sont reunis, devant le Masonic Hall, rue St. Charles, ou la procession s'est formée, le detachement à ouvret la marche, ayant le Labarum (Banner) en tête de colonne, et le T. Ill. Grand Maitre, officiers dignitaires et membres de la T. Ill. Grande Loge de l'Etat ont été escorte sur le terrain ou les ceremonies de consecrations du dernier champ d'asile ont eu lieu avec grande pompe.

Actes officielles. A la requête de la Commanderie les Amis Indivisibles No. 1, à deux différentes fois j'ai accordé dispenses pour abreger le temps, (prevue par nos reglements,) pour baloter pour des Compagnons suffisamment recommandes et dont l'un devait partir pour l'Europe, et l'autre devant s'absentier de cette vallée.

A la requête du Orleans Commanderie No. 3, même dispenses deux fois, à peu pres sous les mêmes auspices.

A la requête de la Commanderie Jacques De Molay No. 2, accordé deux dispenses, pour raisons valables enumerés dans leurs demandes; j'observerai que dans toutes ces demandes, de dispenses il y a plusieurs cas ou elles ont été accordée à la veille des Grandes Ceremonies qui devaient s'accomplir.

Aucune autre question importante n'était présentée à ma decision.

Je n'ai reçu non plus aucune application pour garantir des lettres de dispensation, je desire que d'ici a la fin de cette nouvelle année que le nombre des Commanderies augmente dans notre juridiction.

J'ai visité les trois Commanderies sous notre juridiction, et par des circonstances independantes de ma bonne volonté, je ne l'ai pas fait aussi souvent que j'aurais voulu a chaque visite que j'ai faite j'ai été reçu avec courtoisie.

Je me suis assuré aussi que dans les trois Commanderies, sous notre juridiction qu'il n'y a eu aucun sujet de discorde parmi ces membres, ces Commanderies ce sont regulairment assemblée pour deliberer sur leurs interets particuliers que la paix et la bonne harmonie n'a cessée de regner parmi eux.

En Septembre dernier, le Grande Campement des Etats Unis, c'est assemblée a St. Louis, Missouri, malgré le desir que j'avais en d'être present, des affaires inprevues m'ont enpechée de realiser ce desir j'ai été representé par proxy et notre Grande Commanderie a été pleinement representée.

Les SS. : Chev. : E. D. Grand Commandeur J. P. Hornor, ainsi que le E. G. Generalissimo J. A. Stevenson, etaint presents a cette Grande Assemblée, ils pourons nous donnés une analize sur le deliberation de ces Grand Corps: et des honneurs qu'ils ont regus dans leurs voyages, par ces vaillant et courtois Chevaliers de diverses Commanderies des Etats Unis.

Le Commite de Correspondance vous fera un rapport, succinct en regard des relations existant entre les Grands Corps de notre Ordre et je ne doute pas un seul instant, que le S. : Chevalier James B. Scot, de la Commanderie Jacques de Molay No. 2, s'en acquittera avec expression et avec le langage eloquent, que je me plais a lui reconnaitre.

Et que le concours du S. : Chevalier M. A. Calongne, P. E. Commandeur de Amis Indivisibles No. 1, ne lui'faira pas defaut au besoin.

En finissant ce raport, permettez moi de vous remercier a vous tous, Officiers et Membres de cette Grande Commanderie, pour l'insigne honneur que vous m'avez fait en m'elevant, a la haute dignité de ce Grand Corps, merci rencore pour le concours que vous m'avez donnée dans la tache ardue que j'avais a accomplir et soyez indulgent en vois moi, si dans les divers devoirs officiels que j'avais a accomplir, j'ai commis des erreurs ou faute de jugement. Soyez persuadez d'avance que c'est contre ma volonte, je soumetts ce raport a vos justes deliberations, et fais des vœux pour la prosperité de chacun de vous en particulier.

Regever les sentiments distingué qui m'animent a votre egard, partent d'un cœur franc, vrai et courtois qu'il vide d'amitié pour vous tous.

FULGENCE RICAU,

Grand Commandeur.



## [TRANSLATION:]

*To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Louisiana:*

E. SIR KNIGHTS:

Again assembled in Annual Conclave in this Sacred Asylum, to deliberate on the interests of our Order in Louisiana; let us unite around our triangle and in a fervent prayer thank Almighty God for the signal favor bestowed upon us by not too sensibly diminishing our ranks; let us beg of Him to extend upon us a sweet and vivifying ray of His Light, and favor us again with a year of unbounded peace, prosperity and happiness.

Before proceeding in the discharge of our duty, let us pay a last tribute of respect to the memory of one who is no more, to Willis P. Coleman, an old warrior in our Order, P. E. Grand Captain General of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana, and P. E. Commander of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

His eminent qualities were widely known. He was a Valiant and Courteous Knight, respected by all his companions; and was escorted by a large detachment of Sir Knights to the Asylum of rest, where all the honours due to his virtue and merits were rendered.

The report I have to give of my official duties, during the recess of our Grand Commandery, will be brief:

An invitation from the Board of Directors of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, to assist in the dedication of the Masonic Cemetery, was accepted at our last assembly; and upon a new invitation from the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Rufus Swasey, of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, a special conclave was held in order to arrange the preliminaries, at which the V. E. D. G. Commander was appointed Executive Officer.

Then, on the 24th of April last, a detachment of sixty-five Sir Knights, on horseback in full uniform, under the command of D. G. C., J. P. Hornor, assembled before the Masonic Hall, on St. Charles Street, where the procession was formed. The detachment opened the march, having the Grand Standard at the head of the column, and escorted the M. W. Grand Master, officers and members of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, to the spot where the ceremonies of the consecration of our last resting place, took place with great pomp.

At the request of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, at two different times I have granted dispensations to waive the time required by our by-laws, for balloting for companions who were sufficiently recommended; one of the companions was on the eve of departing for Europe, and the other was to leave this jurisdiction.

At the request of Orleans Commandery No. 3, similar dispensations were granted twice, for nearly the same good reasons.

And finally, at the request of Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 2, I have again granted two dispensations for valid reasons enumerated in their demands. I wish you to observe, that in all these demands for dispensations, several were granted on the eve of Grand Ceremonies that were to take place.

No other important question has been presented for my decision. I have not received any application to issue letters of dispensation for new Commanderies.

I hope that before the end of this new year, the number of Commanderies will increase in our jurisdiction.

I have visited the three Commanderies under our jurisdiction, and through circumstances independent of my good will, I have not visited them as often as I wished. At every visit I was received with courtesy.

I am pleased to announce to you, that in the three Commanderies under our jurisdiction, no subject of discord has arisen between their members; that they have regularly assembled, to deliberate on their particular welfare, and that peace and harmony always reigned amongst them.

In September last, the Grand Encampment of the U. S. met at St. Louis, Mo. Although my idea and desire, was to be present at said assembly, unforeseen business prevented me from realizing my wish. I was represented by proxy, and the Grand Commandery was fully represented.

The E. Sir Knights, V. E. D. G. Com., J. P. Hornor, also, E. Grand Generalissimo, J. A. Stevenson, were present at the Grand Assembly.

They will be able to give us an account of the deliberations in that Grand Body, and give us an account of the honours paid them in their journey, by valiant and courteous Knights of divers Commanderies in the U. S.

The Committee on Correspondence will give you an account of relations existing between the Grand Bodies of our Order.

I do not doubt a single instant that Sir Knight James B. Scot will fulfil this task, with that expression and eloquence of language I am pleased to recognize in him. I also believe that Sir Knight, M. A. Calongne, P. E. C. of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, will nobly assist him in case of need.

In ending this report, permit me to thank you all, Officers and Members of this Grand Commandery, for the signal honour you have extended unto me by raising me to the highest dignity of this Grand Body. Thanks again for your assistance in the arduous task I had to accomplish. Be so indulgent, as to think it independent of my will, if I have committed any errors in the discharge of my several duties. I submit this report to your just deliberations, and ending most earnestly wish the prosperity of our Sublime Order, and that of each one of you in particular.

Receive the noble sentiments which animate me towards you as coming from a frank, true and courteous heart.

On motion of E. Sir Alfred E. Billings, the Address was ordered spread upon the minutes and published with the proceedings in French and English.

The E. Grand Treasurer submitted the following statement of the receipts and disbursements in his office, accompanied by vouchers for all payments made by him.

On motion of E. Sir Joseph P. Hornor, the report was adopted, and the vouchers ordered cancelled.

1869.]

## GRAND COMMANDERY.

9

GRAND COMMANDERY K. T., State of Louisiana,  
in account with E. BLESSEY, Treasurer:

1868.

February 14—Balance account rendered.....\$209 00

1869.

February 12—Cash received from Grand Recorder..... 175 00

1868.

384 00

March 17—Paid order No. 11, Isaac T. Hinton.. \$100 00

“ “ 12, S. S. Selleck..... 10 00

“ “ 13, G. Sontag..... 25 00

“ “ 14, “..... 10 50

23— “ 15, Isaac T. Hinton..... 108 00

Sept'r 10— “ 16, Grand Commandery..... 100 00

————— \$353 50

February 12—Balance on hand..... \$20 50

E. &amp; O. E.

Respectfully submitted,

E. BLESSEY,

New Orleans, Feb. 12, 1869.

Grand Treasurer.

The E. Grand Recorder then submitted the following report,  
which was, on motion, adopted:

NEW ORLEANS, February 12, 1869.

*To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:*

In accordance with a resolution adopted at the last annual conclave, I had printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of the Grand Commandery. These have been distributed—twenty-five to each Commandery under our jurisdiction, two to each Grand Commandery in the United States, and Canadas, and two to each Masonic periodical of which I had any knowledge.

All the Commanderies of this jurisdiction have made correct returns and paid their dues. Annexed hereto is my account current, which I submit for your examination and approval.

Courteously submitted,

ALFRED E. BILLINGS,

Grand Recorder.

ALFRED E. BILLINGS, Grand Recorder,

in account with the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

1869.

DR.

January 30—To Orleans Commandery No. 3..... 70 00

February 2—To Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 2..... 30 00

“ To Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1..... 75 00

CR.

February 12—By Sir E. Blessey, Grand Treasurer..... \$175 00

The E. Grand Recorder reported verbally that he had procured a desk for the use of the Grand Commandery, at a cost of fifty-five dollars, which action was, on motion, approved.

Sir James B. Scot then read the following Report of the Com-

mittee on Foreign Correspondence, which was received and ordered to be published with the proceedings:

*To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:*

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully beg leave to report that they have received, from the Grand Recorder, the proceedings of the following Grand Commanderies:

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ALABAMA, 1868,                | MISSOURI, 1868,               |
| GEORGIA, 1862—1868,           | NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1865-- 1867,   |
| ILLINOIS, 1867 and 1868,      | NEW JERSEY, 1867,             |
| INDIANA, 1868,                | NEW YORK, 1868,               |
| IOWA, 1867 and 1868,          | PENNSYLVANIA, 1868,           |
| KENTUCKY, 1868,               | TENNESSEE, 1868,              |
| MAINE, 1868,                  | VERMONT, 1868,                |
| MASSACHUSETTS and R. I. 1867, | VIRGINIA, 1868,               |
| MINNESOTA, 1868,              | GRAND ENCAMPMENT U. S., 1868. |

In addition to culling from the above whatever we find of interest, we give a brief notice of those Grand Bodies whose proceedings have failed to reach us, whenever we find our *confrères* of the "corps correspondential" have been more fortunate than ourselves.

ALABAMA.—The proceedings of this Grand Commandery were received at the last moment. The many acts of kindness bestowed by the magnanimous Knights of Alabama upon the writer, when sojourning in their midst, "a weary pilgrim traveling from afar," are indelibly impressed upon his memory, and will be gratefully cherished in his heart until it has ceased to beat. It is therefore with emotions of sincere pleasure that we are again able to place the honored name at the head of our list.

The ninth annual conclave was held in Montgomery, December 11, 1868, Sir Richard F. Knott, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and all the subordinates represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is principally devoted to the details of his official duties. He issued one dispensation for the formation of a new Commandery, and, in reference to the condition of our Order in his jurisdiction, says:

Everywhere in our beloved State, the standard of intelligence, virtue and morality among our fraters, is of the highest order; the ancient landmarks are preserved, and every thing is in strict conformity to Knightly courtesy. Our Sir Knights have no contention, but they have that noble emulation of "who can best work and best agree." The portals of our Sacred Asylums are strictly guarded, and under no circumstances are the unworthy permitted to enter.

The usual routine of business was transacted; mutual representation with the Grand Commanderies of Pennsylvania and Missouri was entered into, and a gold medal voted to the retiring R. E. Grand Commander, Sir R. F. Knott, in appreciation of his valuable services in the cause of Templar Masonry. A resolution was also adopted, declaring that "hereafter no Sir Knight shall be eligible to the office of R. E. Grand Commander for more than two years in succession." We fail to see the wisdom of this resolution. In our opinion,

a capable and efficient presiding officer should be re-elected as long as he is willing to serve, and an incompetent one got rid off at the earliest opportunity. The welfare of our Order, and not the gratification of aspirants for office, should actuate us in the selection of our standard bearers.

The Grand Officers elect were publicly installed in the First Baptist Church, on which occasion an eloquent oration, on the principles and tenets of the Orders of Christian Knighthood in their union with Ancient Craft Masonry, was delivered by Sir John J. Morgan. The Grand Commandery accepted an invitation to a banquet rendered by Montgomery Commandery No. 4, and the generous hospitality which characterizes the Sir Knights of that body is a sufficient guarantee that the spread was bounteous and crowned with "the feast of reason and the flow of soul."

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again from the pen of Sir A. J. Walker; ably written, courteous in tone, and abounding with judicious remarks, its perusal has afforded us both pleasure and profit. His notice of our proceedings is kind and fraternal—giving liberal extracts from the address of our Grand Commander and the report on correspondence. Noticing the formation of the first Commandery in Florida, located at Warrenton, and named *Cœur de Lion*, he says that many of its members are connected with the Navy Yard, at that station, and suggests that it would be an act of courtesy for the several Grand Commanderies to forward to it a copy of their proceedings. He adds:

We trust the day is not far distant, when this single Commandery shall cease to bloom alone in the land of flowers, and when a number of Commanderies in that beautiful land, grouped together into a Grand Body, shall sweeten its Masonic atmosphere with the rich fragrance of a pure and elevated Christian Knighthood.

The conclusion of the report breathes the spirit of the true Templar, and we give it entire:

To cultivate a sentiment of refined courtesy, generous friendship, and alleviating charity as between the members of the Order; to inspire the hearts of its members with noble and honorable emotions; to send forth its votaries equipped from the armory of its precepts, and bound by Knightly vows; to wield a militant moral and social power in behalf of the purity, innocence and distresses of woman, and of the helplessness of orphanage and of the holy religion of the blessed Emmanuel; to teach the almighty force and importance of truth; to supplant arrogance with faith and humility; to inspire with the constancy and courage of a moral heroism; to subdue the proud spirit to the extreme penitential mood, which confesses and with penance expiates past errors, and to radiate through society the light of a pure morality and a high civilization, are the exalted purposes of Chivalric Masonry in this country. Our perusal of the great mass of addresses, reports, resolutions and other deliverances of the grand conclaves of Templarism brings to our view the progress of a great, earnest and honest struggle to make the institution instrumental in the accomplishment of those purposes. Human frailty and imperfection have prevented, and will ever prevent the full and complete attainment of them. Nevertheless, we perceive through the medium of the matter which we have read, that enough has been accomplished to challenge the admiration of the world, and to animate and encourage valiant and magnanimous Knights to continued and increased efforts in the noble and glorious work. Let our motto then be, onward and upward—*Excelsior! Excelsior!*—and thus, if we never realize the full fruition of all our aspirations, we will at least entitle ourselves to the plaudit—well done, good and faithful servants.

Four memorial tablets record the names of six Sir Knights, members of

subordinate Commanderies, who had finished the pilgrimage of life, and, we trust, entered the asylum above.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 8; Membership, 242; Created, 31.

Sir Peleg Brown was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir E. M. Hastings re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

**CALIFORNIA.**—No proceedings received. We learn from the Illinois and New York Committees that the tenth annual conclave of this Grand Commandery was held in San Francisco, October 7, 1867, Sir Isaac S. Titus, Deputy Grand Commander, presiding, and seven Commanderies represented.

Sir Wm. M. Rundell, R. E. Grand Commander, being prevented from attending by a severe accident, transmitted a brief address, which was read. He had visited all the Commanderies save one, and, in addition to the harmony existing, found a satisfactory degree of uniformity in the work. Referring to the condition of our Order, he says: "Peace reigns without our walls, and neither enmity nor unpleasantness of any kind, find resting place within the portals of our sacred asylum." He suggested the propriety of amending the statutes so as to give the Grand Commander discretionary power to shorten the period of residence before a Companion from another jurisdiction can receive the orders in California." The suggestion was, very properly, not adopted; and Sir Knight Simons remarks: "California has often complained of the invasion of her jurisdictional rights, with justice on her side; we are glad to perceive that she does not intend to furnish any ground for complaint against herself."

One charter was granted, and five hundred dollars appropriated to procure equipments for the Grand Commandery.

Sir Lawrence C. Owen presented the report on Foreign Correspondence.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 8; Members, 375; Created, 57.

Sir Isaac S. Titus was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Lawrence C. Owen re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

**CONNECTICUT.**—No proceedings received, and we avail ourselves of the labors of the New York and Illinois Committees in preparing the following notice of this Grand Commandery. The annual conclave was held in Hartford, May 14, 1868, Sir Stiles D. Sperry, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and all the subordinates (eight) represented.

The Grand Commander, in his address, suggested the propriety of an annual encampment and review of all the subordinate Commanderies in his jurisdiction, with a view to the improvement of the Sir Knights in drill, uniform and equipment. The suggestion was adopted, and a day appointed for this "general muster." Sir Knight Sperry also suggested the propriety of dispensing with the Cryptic degrees as pre-requisites for the orders—but a resolution to that effect was laid over. Noticing the controversy between Pennsylvania and Massachusetts as to priority of organization, he puts in a claim for Connecticut as being older than either, and a "Historiographer" was appointed to investigate the subject and report at the next annual conclave.

The Grand Recorder, Sir E. G. Storer, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. It is said to be very brief—owing doubtless to increasing years and failing health. We join with Sir Knight Simons in saying, "If our good wishes would make him well, he were the heartiest man in Connecticut."

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 8; Members, 973; Created, 114.

Sir Amos S. Treat was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir E. G. Storer re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

GEORGIA.—For the first time, we have on our table the proceedings of this Grand Commandery, and, in extending a hearty welcome and fraternal greeting to its Sir Knights, sincerely hope that the ordeal of the past may be rewarded by a bright and prosperous future.

At the third annual conclave, April 28, 1862, there was no quorum; at the fourth, April 23, 1863, four Commanderies were represented, and resolutions were unanimously adopted declaring the Grand Commandery independent of the Grand Encampment of the United States. For reasons which require no explanation, no conclave was held in 1864 or 1865. At the annual conclave in 1866, five Commanderies were represented. The Grand Commander, in a brief address, noticed the death of Grand Master Sir Wm. B. Hubbard, and recommended the Grand Commandery to renew its allegiance to the Grand Encampment. On this recommendation the resolutions of 1863 were unanimously rescinded. One charter was granted and the usual business transacted.

The sixth annual conclave was held in Augusta, April 23, 1867, Sir Wm. T. Gould, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and four chartered Commanderies and one U. D. represented. In his address, the Grand Commander referring to his correspondence with Sir Henry L. Palmer, Grand Master of Templars, announcing the re-union of his Grand Commandery with the Grand Body, remarks:

As this re-union has now become a fixed fact, there is little use in discussing it; but it may be proper for us to be reminded that while the political secession of the Southern States rendered our separation from the Grand Encampment a matter of sheer necessity, yet, when that cause was removed, the reason for separation ceased; and a return to our original allegiance was a mere matter of course. \* \* \* The Grand Encampment never abandoned their authority over us, and while the nation is politically one, that authority cannot be shaken off.

Our space prevents us from giving the correspondence entire, but we cordially unite in the wish uttered by Sir Knight Gould, and fully reciprocated by Grand Master Palmer, "that no future interruption may ever mar the harmony of our intercourse as countrymen, as Masons, and as Knights of our noble Order."

At this conclave, one charter was granted; a committee appointed to report a ritual and system of drill, and the Grand Recorder instructed to procure a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Encampment from its organization to the present time, for the use of the Grand Commandery.

The seventh annual conclave was held in Augusta, May 1, 1868, Sir Wm. T. Gould, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and seven Commanderies represented. The Grand Commander, in a brief address, states he had been called on for no official act, and gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$200 from the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, as a donation from that Grand Body for the relief of the destitute of our Order in his jurisdiction. Only one case had been reported, for which he promptly remitted fifty dollars. A vote of thanks was tendered to the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania for its generous donation, and the balance of the amount was placed in the hands of the Grand Treasurer as a charity fund at the disposal of the Grand Commander.

The venerable Sir Knight Gould, now verging upon threescore and ten, having served as Grand Commander from the organization of his Grand Body, declined a re-election. A committee was appointed to present him a P. E. Grand Commander's jewel, as a token of the appreciation entertained for his long and valuable services in behalf of the interests of our Order. There is no report on Foreign Correspondence, and no committee appears to have been appointed. Now, that the Sir Knights of Georgia have wheeled into line and are enjoying a reasonable degree of prosperity, we hope this will be attended to in the future. There is more than one gallant Knight among their number who can wield the pen as well as the sword.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 7; Members, 316; Orders conferred, not stated.

Sir Thomas W. Chandler was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Charles R. Armstrong re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

ILLINOIS.—The eleventh annual conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in Chicago, October 22, 1867, Sir Geo. C. Lanphere, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and nineteen Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander's address is an able and interesting paper. He states that "the Order was never apparently in a more prosperous condition than at present," and the recital of his official acts proves that much of this prosperity is the result of his zeal and efficiency. He granted five dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies, and alluding to the generous hospitalities extended him on his official visits and at festival occasions, says:

These re-unions, bringing together the Sir Knights from all parts of the State, are calculated to have a most happy effect. They familiarize the Sir Knights with each other; strengthen the ties of friendship and fraternal love, and tend to uniformity in the ritual of the Order. In this age of bustle and toil, when so few moments are usually snatched from business for enjoyment, we need more holidays—days of rest, and yet days of rejoicing; days of social converse, and for the indulgence of the sweet amenities of life; where, too, our wives and daughters may take a part, and by their approving smiles add greatly to the happiness of the occasion.

He reported nine decisions. In the case of a Sir Knight, who for five years after receiving the Orders neglected, although often requested, to pay the fees for the Orders and Commandery dues, he decided that such conduct justified the Commandery in treating him as a "heathen and a stranger." We were not aware that Commanderies in Illinois conferred the Orders on credit—but this looks like it. In our opinion, the sooner the practice is prohibited the better. We quote the following:

Conferring the Orders of Knighthood upon a candidate, does not make him a member of the Commandery. He must sign the by-laws, or otherwise he is not liable for dues.

The vote in the Commandery for the Orders, or for affiliation, should in all cases be unanimous, and by the secret ballot.

It is not proper to confer the Orders without the regular fee. If the Sir Knights see fit to donate the fees, they have the right to do so.

Commanderies U. D. have exclusive jurisdiction over territory, the same as a chartered Commandery.

Sir Knight Lanphere considers that "uniformity in the drill is almost as essential as uniformity in the ritual," and, remarking that the system practiced in his jurisdiction is generally believed to be defective and incomplete, says:



Sir Knights, there is an outside world, to whose opinions we must pay some respect, and, as well on account of that opinion as of its intrinsic importance, permit me to call your attention to the subject of a more thorough *practical* knowledge of the tactics and drill. It is quite true that to many of the Commanderies within our jurisdiction this admonition is unnecessary. They have already so perfected themselves in these respects that they would do honor to the Order anywhere. But there are some who have not. To the public we are known only as a military body; we are soldiers, or nothing; "*aut Cæsar, aut nullus.*" Now, soldiers without discipline are simply ridiculous. There must be a knowledge of the sword exercise, and of the evolutions peculiar to the Order; and a prompt, correct, soldierly bearing in their execution, otherwise we shall do the Order discredit whenever we appear in public. We must not forget that a great change in the knowledge of military matters has taken place in our country in the last few years. Almost every young man we meet, from long service in the army, has become a critic of such matters, and will not be slow to expose our ignorance.

During the last few years the subject of Tactics and Drill has engaged considerable attention, and, while not disposed to undervalue it, we do not consider it of such paramount importance as some others do. We therefore fully concur in the following remarks on the above, by Sir J. H. Drummond:

While we fully agree with the last portion of this extract, we dissent from the statement that "to the public we are known only as a military body." We are known to the public as *Masons*, and esteemed by them as Masons of the highest degree; and they understand that the military element is only incidental. But they expect that, so far as we undertake a military character, we should carry it out decently and in order; and so we should; no Commandery should be allowed to appear in public, until it can perform our peculiar evolutions in such a manner as not to subject it to ridicule. Many of our evolutions are unknown to military tactics, but these, if performed with precision, are never called in question; but if clumsily performed, the *manner* of performance will be criticised.

But an erroneous idea prevails in some quarters: it is held that we must keep a sharp watch on "army tactics" and follow them through all their changes. But this is not so; our Order is the same now as fifty years ago; our evolutions are peculiar to ourselves; they are the same now as they were in the past and as they will be in the future; we should have our own system of tactics, which should enable us to perform all our evolutions without confusion, and in an orderly and precise manner; and when that system is once established, it should be permanent and not subject to the whims and caprices of any one, or the changes of any purely *military* system. What may be proper for the latter may not be best for us, whose military character is only incidental.

Again, some of our Sir Knights consider that when we appear in public our *Masonic* character is wholly sunk in the *military*. But it is now almost universally conceded, that we should never appear in public except upon a Masonic occasion, or to do some Masonic labor. So that the *Masonic* character is the main feature, and the *military* is incidental and secondary; no more military evolutions should be used than are necessary to perform the Masonic labor. But it too often happens that the *secondary* assumes to be the *primary*; that the *ornament* arrogates to itself the province of the *wearer*; that the *casket* mistakes itself for the *gem*; that the Sir Knights appear to the public as if they considered that the occasion was created to honor *them*, rather than that *they* appear in honor of the *occasion*. The public perceives this fault as quickly as it does lack of military drill, and holds it in greater contempt.

There is another danger in connection with this matter. There is a disposition to become absorbed in questions of uniform, drill, etc., to the exclusion "of the weightier matters of the law," as if *those* were the primary objects of our Order. In the eagerness to perfect the Sir Knights in *military* drill, the *moral* drill is forgotten. If one is *au fait* in his sword exercise and correct in his evolutions, his intemperance and profanity is forgotten if not forgiven. If

this is allowed to be, the soul of our organization is gone, and the body will soon follow.

We desire to enter our protest against an innovation which seems to be creeping into our Order. There is an effort, in part successful, to introduce the peculiar system of *military* etiquette. Forgetting that the two systems are entirely dissimilar, and that we have merely borrowed *some* of the tactics (which very likely were originally borrowed from us) some would make us alike in *all* things. Questions of "ranking," and "out-ranking," "posts of honor," etc., are excitedly discussed, as if the very existence of the Order depended upon them. We trust that we shall not in this respect be made ridiculous.

A committee was appointed to prepare a complete system of Tactics and Drill, and when approved to publish the same as a text-book; including therein the monitorial portions of the work, the statutes and regulations of the Grand Commandery, and the burial, installation and dedication services. A resolution providing that candidates for the Orders should have been R. A. Masons at least six months, and that two weeks should intervene between the Orders, was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence who reported adversely, and the report was adopted.

Sir Henry C. Ranney presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing in an able and instructive manner the proceedings of sixteen Grand Commanderies,—Louisiana, for 1867, receiving an extended and friendly notice. He thinks that candidates are rushed through the Orders with too great rapidity; favors the English ritual, and "says we have altogether too much Masonry now-a-days," adding:

What with American Masonry, Scotch Masonry, and Egyptian Masonry, and for aught we know, there may be other Rites practiced in this country, our energies are wasted, and our influence for good is too often counteracted by the discords and quarrels of some of these Bodies. Even in this State, in the so-called Rite of Memphis, there are numerous bodies working under two different Heads, and conferring degrees by obligation, for they cannot work them, for the most trifling sums; degrees useless to the persons receiving them, and only taken to gratify a momentary vanity, and tending to weaken their attachment to the American Rite. In fact, persons have united themselves to, and, to some extent, gained the control of these foreign organizations, who could not advance a single step beyond the third degree, and many of whom should never have been permitted to cross the threshold of a Lodge.

Since the above was written we have received the proceedings of the twelfth annual convocation, held in Chicago, October 27, 1868, Sir Vincent L. Hurlbut, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and twenty-six Commanderies represented.

The address of Grand Commander Hurlbut is a carefully prepared and very interesting paper. After returning thanks for the many mercies and blessings vouchsafed during the year, he says:

We stand pledged by every sacred obligation for human weal and progress. As Templars we are toiling to lift up the race to the enjoyment of a true *Christian Civilization*. Lifting up our banner of the Cross as the sign of that invincible power which moves steadily onward to redeem humanity, we inscribe thereon our sacred motto, "*In Hoc Signo Vinces*," and filled with its inspiration, we march forward in our way of toil and achievement. Catholic in our aims and spirit, we welcome all the *ameliories* of our time. We are jealous of neither *sect* nor *party*, but utter a hearty God-speed to all who are toiling to enlarge the boundaries of human progress, and to pour into human life the streams of a deeper and richer experience. We have never uttered a word or performed an act which could be justly construed into an attack upon the *Chris-*

*tian Church.* Indeed, this were impossible without a plain violation of our purpose and our obligation. It has been with pain, therefore, that we have witnessed during the past year an attempt to bring the *Church* and *Freemasonry* into collision. The warfare made upon us, in behalf of the *Church* and in the name of the *Christian religion*, has been conducted by a few sectarian bigots and with peculiar bitterness. An attempt is made to revive old slanders, arouse old buried prejudices, and by a most unwarrantable misrepresentation of our designs, work and history, to place us under the ban as *Anti-Christian*. So proscriptive and intolerant has this warfare become, that under its leaders Masonic membership has been made the ground of expulsion from the *Church*. While this needless and most unjustifiable hostility is to be deplored, its bad effects will be seen not in the wrecking of our beloved Order, but in a withdrawal from the *Church* of the most liberal-minded and large-hearted of her membership, materials she cannot well afford to lose. This proscriptive spirit only furnishes another unanswerable demand and necessity for our Order. There is such a tendency to division in the *Church*, such sharp and often bitter wrangling about conflicting *creeds*, often ending in an intolerant and persecuting spirit, and these dissensions tend so inevitably to chill human charity and make men forget the obligations of a common brotherhood, that we need some sacred *Asylum*, sheltered from the storms of sectarian strife, where we may go and lay our hearts upon a common *Altar* and fan the dying embers of *Charity* and good will into a loving flame. Our Order has withstood the shocks of the past, the combined assaults of its enemies in days when it was comparatively weak, and it can smile at the puny attempts to weaken its large growing power. Emissaries without cannot do lasting harm, and if we suffer loss it will be from the infidelity and unworthiness of our members, the *moral treason* of those within our sacred enclosure. We may become recreant to duty and principle, false to our obligations, and then we should meet the fate we merit; but while we are true to our aims, true to our history, we shall absorb more and more of the best intellect and heart of the world, and win new and nobler triumphs.

We regret that, in condemning the acts of a few sectarians, the Grand Commander should have used language which may be construed as placing *Masonry* above the *Church*. As the hand-maid of religion, *Masonry* has an appropriate mission to perform, and as long as it confines itself to its proper sphere, we have nothing to fear from the assaults of our enemies. But, the disposition manifested in certain quarters, to substitute *Masonry* for the *Church*, will, if persisted in, prove a death-blow to our institution. In its collective sense the *Church* embraces all who profess to believe in Christ and acknowledge Him to be the Saviour of mankind. With the different creeds of those who compose the *Church* universal, we, as *Templars*, have nothing to do; and when assailed by bigotry and intolerance, instead of condemning the *Church*, we should remember there was a Judas among the twelve, who by transgression fell and betrayed his Lord and Master.

Sir Knight Hurlbut states that the year has been marked by an unprecedented growth of our Order, while peace and prosperity have abounded. He issued dispensations for three new *Commanderies*, and appointed several *Representatives* to sister jurisdictions. He was present at the triennial session of the Grand Encampment, and says: "It demonstrated our firm faith in the sublime possibilities latent in the human soul, which, under the pressure of circumstances, springs full-armed to meet the fiery ordeals of life; ignoring all bitter prejudices; casting the broad mantle of heavenly charity over faults real or apparent; and on all possible occasions enforcing the law of lov-

ing kindness." He recommends that steps be taken to secure a perfect uniformity of work and drill, and suggests the propriety of setting apart a day for an annual parade and general review of the Commanderies of the State.

As a new system of Tactics and Drill was adopted by the Grand Commandery, the subject was indefinitely postponed. A Committee on Work was appointed and the office of "Inspector General" created; the Sir Knight receiving the appointment being authorized to instruct Commanderies in the Tactics and Drill, ritual and work of the Orders, "at the expense of those by whom he may be employed." The following resolution was also adopted, and we would like to see one similar to it enforced in every jurisdiction:

*Resolved*, That every petition for a subordinate Commandery shall state, in addition to the matters heretofore usually set forth, that some one of the petitioners, who shall be named, is competent to discharge the duties of E. Commander in conducting the ordinary business of a Commandery, and is also sufficiently skilled in the work and ritual of the Order to be able to open and close a Commandery in due form, and to confer the Orders of Knighthood in a proper manner; and the recommendation required from the nearest Commandery shall affirm that the facts stated in the petition are true, and the Commandery so recommending shall be held responsible to the Grand Commandery for the truth of such affirmation.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of the Grand Recorder, Sir James H. Miles, and reviews in a courteous and knightly manner the proceedings of twenty-one Grand Commanderies, our own for 1868 included.

*Statistics*: Commanderies 30; Membership, 1677; Created, 349.

Sir Jerome R. Gorin was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir James H. Miles re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

INDIANA.—The fourteenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in Indianapolis, April 7, 1868, Sir Harvey G. Hazelrigg, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and ten chartered Commanderies and two U. D. represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is an excellent document, and, in addition to a recital of his official acts, supplies the place of a report on Foreign Correspondence. He acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of fifteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1868 included, and remarks:

The satisfaction I have enjoyed in the perusal of these proceedings has only been equalled by the information gained. The time consumed has been fully compensated for, in either gaining new ideas or being confirmed in the correctness of former opinions. There are no differences of opinion or practice that are of threatening importance.

Referring to the discussion on the Templar Funeral Service, he considers the performance of the funeral ceremony "not one of the privileges of the Order, but one of its duties." He adheres to the opinion expressed last year that a Master Mason, as such, should not participate in these ceremonies. He is opposed to the performance of the Lodge and Commandery ceremonies on the same occasion, as in that case those of other societies might with equal propriety be introduced, and thus "the impressiveness and solemnity of all would be destroyed." We have never looked on mixed funeral ceremonies with any favor, and agree with Sir Knight Hazelrigg that only one service should be performed, and the choice of that one left where it properly belongs—with the brother himself. He courteously suggests to Connecticut

and Virginia the propriety of rescinding their regulations making the R. and S. Degrees a pre-requisite for the Orders of Knighthood; holds, in opposition to New York, that the physical qualification clause applies to applicants for the Orders; and commenting upon Sir John W. Simon's assertion that "all Masonic jurists now agree that the law of physical qualification applies only to candidates for the initiatory degree," says: "The term 'Masonic jurists' is rather latitudinous,—not very well defined nor sustained by the facts; for there are jurisdictions in which it is not unreasonable to suppose there are "Masonic jurists who insist that the physical qualification clause applies to all the degrees of Masonry." Tactics and Drill, he considers of trivial importance. Admitting that the discussion between Massachusetts and Pennsylvania has shed much light on the early history of Templarism in the United States, he thinks the question of seniority of little consequence,—that the position occupied by the Sir Knights of both jurisdictions ought to gratify their highest ambition, as antiquity can confer no honor on the illustrious names of the present day—"for even age, though venerable, is not infallible." He is opposed to any change in the ritual, or to the exclusion of the Red Cross from the Orders conferred in the Commandery; and regrets that the proceedings of the different Grand Bodies are not all printed on the same sized page, as that would render them more convenient for binding and future reference. This is a valuable suggestion and one we hope to see adopted.

Having disposed of the proceedings of sister Grand Commanderies, Sir Knight Hazelrigg renders an account of his stewardship. He had granted dispensations for the formation of three new Commanderies, and in reference to the condition of the Order, says:

The past year has been one of unusual activity in our Grand Jurisdiction. The number created far exceeds that of any previous year, while those who have enlisted under our banners are well worthy the cause in which they have engaged. The required standard of qualifications has been strictly adhered to; none have been permitted to enter our asylums but the worthy and well qualified, who have—by their skill and proficiency in previous engagements—proved themselves worthy to wield a sword in the protection of innocence, the destitute, the helpless, and, if need be, in defence of the Christian religion. And, from the past, we feel that we have ample assurance of a happy, prosperous and glorious future. The solemn and impressive ceremonies of our Order cannot fail to awaken in the enlightened and inquiring mind, not only a strict examination as to his duty in every relation of life, but also to seek an interest in the merits of a once crucified but now exalted Saviour.

The following resolutions were adopted:

1. That a Commandery working under dispensation possesses all the legal rights and powers granted and conferred by the Grand Commandery upon a Commandery working under charter, except the right to elect officers and to hold public celebrations.

2. That a delegate from a Commandery working under dispensation is not entitled to a vote in the Grand Commandery until such Commandery shall have been regularly constituted under charter.

We consider both correct. Dispensations were granted for the formation of two new Commanderies, and a committee appointed to prepare a historical memoir of the organization and progress of the Grand Commandery.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 15; Membership, 547; Created, 132.

Sir Thomas Newby was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John M. Bramwell, E. Grand Recorder.

IOWA.—A special conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in Keokuk, June 4, 1866, for the purpose of exemplifying the tactics, drill and work of the Orders, and constituting Damascus Commandery. The ceremonies of the latter were public, and are given in full in the proceedings, together with an oration delivered on the occasion by Sir E. A. Guilbert. This oration fully sustains the reputation of its author, and no synopsis we could give would convey an adequate idea of its merits. A pleasant re-union closed the labors of this special conclave—the Grand Commandery and visiting Sir Knights attending “a festival and supper” prepared for them under the supervision of the ladies of the Sir Knights of Keokuk.

The fourth annual conclave was held in Davenport, October 15, 1867, Sir William Leffingwell, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding; nine chartered Commanderies and two under dispensation represented. The address of the Grand Commander is an interesting paper, and proves that our Order is in a flourishing condition. He very properly decided that one who had received the Orders in a military Commandery during the war could not be admitted into a subordinate Commandery without first being formally healed, as he “did not recognize as regular any Commandery that was floating around the country, or that had not a definite location.” *Par parenthese*, where could such a hybrid concern derive its authority? In closing he sends a knightly greeting to the Southern Grand Commanderies, whom he is pleased to see “rising majestically above the cloud which has so long hung over them as a funeral pall, and resuming their original and knightly stand in the lines of our noble Order.”

The minimum fee for the Orders of Knighthood was fixed at forty dollars. The ritual was exemplified; the office of “Grand Historian of Templarism” created, and Sir Wm. B. Langridge appointed to that position; and the “Evergreen,” a Masonic journal published at Dubuque, under the editorship of Sir E. A. Guilbert, adopted as the “organ” of the Grand Commandery, and recommended to the patronage of the “Templar Craft.” *Query?* Does the Grand Commandery hold itself responsible for the views advocated by its “organ?”

Sir E. A. Guilbert presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, and it forms the great feature in the proceedings. It is an exhaustive review of the proceedings of seventeen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1867 included, and occupies forty-seven pages of small type. He says it was written at odd moments;—“the green and pleasant oases of opportunity in the mirage-dominated desert of a busy life.” Whatever that euphuism may mean, the report shows that its composition was a labor of love, and its contents are suggestive and interesting. Our proceedings receive a courteous notice, and, referring to our remarks on his former report, he informs us that the “expressed horror of centralization” with which he views the action of the Grand Encampment of the United States, was “not inspired by Sir Knight Hacker or Sir Knight any other man,” but an opinion entertained by him for years, and “the results of close observation of the signs of the times.” As other committees have attacked his position, he ever and anon returns to the charge and attempts to parry their thrusts. We cannot say that the criticisms which his remarks provoked have brought forth “fruits meet for repentance,” but in many por-

tions of his report he has taken pains to define his position more clearly. He "wants to see the Grand Encampment begin to live to some purpose;" he "should be sorry to see the central Grand Body die"—he "would rather see it made active, energetic and aggressive." Again, "We do not seek to 'overturn' unless all agree to do so, but we do want to see the Central Grand Body, if it is thought worthy to live, galvanized into some semblance of life." He desires to see it made "respectable and useful," "instead of an asylum for retired Masonic politicians, where they go to have a general good time over the Pennsylvania Master Mason's secret and to sing appreciatively the song—"Call me pet names, dearest," and so forth and so on." Still, he does not "propose to escape from his allegiance" to the Grand Body—and we give the reason why in his own words:

We feelingly appreciate the fact, that we are like the man who was tied to an impracticable, thriftless, woman. He deplored her failings, but could not "escape" them, because the courts even in Indiana would not divorce him. The law entered a stern "no go" protest. The only way the thing could be done in our case, would be for a majority of the constituent Grand Bodies to unite in requiring its dissolution. That, however, in the present state of Masonic affairs, cannot be accomplished. So, the Central Grand Body must continue "to lag like a superfluous veteran on the stage."

The whole tone of Sir Knight Guilbert's remarks shows that he has no respect for the Grand Encampment of the United States, and that he bears it allegiance simply because he can not successfully raise the standard of revolt. We have no sympathy with any movement which tends to weaken the authority or destroy the influence of the Grand Body. We believe that Templar Masonry requires a Supreme Head; but we have no desire to see the Grand Encampment become "aggressive" and feel satisfied that, should it ever become so, our Iowa frater would be the first to kick in the traces—unless the aggression was in the path he indicated.

Sir Knight Guilbert is opposed to clergymen receiving the Orders free of charge, and pertinently remarks: "Men who have the degrees of Masonry thrust upon them are, as a rule, of no service to the Order." In his opinion no annual conclave of a Grand Commandery should be allowed to pass without a public installation, preceded by the McMurdy devotional service; an oration "and then the fitting finale—the banquet, the rose odors and the wine" of refreshment." We would like to see this introduced into our own jurisdiction. Noticing the objections of Grand Commander Murray, of Maine, to the beautiful devotional service of Sir Knight McMurdy, he says that he has not made "theological indigo an article of diet," and contends that the liturgy of the Catholic Church is not exclusively its property, but belongs as well to the different sects of Protestants. For our own part, we can see no sectarianism in the devotional service prepared by Sir Knight McMurdy, and regret it was not adopted by the Grand Encampment. In his notice of Massachusetts, he quotes the opinion expressed by Sir Knight Titus in regard to Committees on Foreign Correspondence, and is rather severe upon the "Japanese exclusiveness" which characterizes that jurisdiction. He thinks that a majority of the Masonic Grand officials in and about Boston have a "holier than thou" air about them, and seem to be of the opinion "what they don't know is not worth knowing." And, in answer to the disparaging remarks of Sir Knight Titus, asserts that "a conscientious report on Foreign Correspondence

written by a frater of education and experience, does more to make the reputation of a Grand Commandery, than scores of the spiritless addresses from the throne." He considers at length the question of a change of the ritual as proposed by Pennsylvania, and decides adversely to it. Admitting that the ritual has been Americanized, he argues that "every Knight and every Commandery, by being pledged to support the Grand Encampment, is also pledged to sustain the Webb system," and says:

The Knights of Pennsylvania in their individual capacity have a right to acquire and work the English ritual just as they have that of the A. and A. Rite, or the Rite of Memphis, and to form for its control a new Grand Encampment, but we cannot see how they can, in good faith, ask the Grand Encampment of the United States to destroy itself and undo the very work it was created to introduce and sustain, and which it has fostered and spread over the whole country for fifty years past. \* \* \* \* \*

The Templars of the United States are too warmly attached to the work they have been educated in, the hour of whose reception forms an era to which memory turns at all times and under all circumstances, with awe, reverence and delight, to listen for a moment to any proposition for a change. They may take in and add the English ritual along with the A. and A. Rite and the Rite of Memphis, to what they already have, but they will scarcely listen to the "charmer, charm he never so wisely," who asks them to stamp with the seal of disapproval the acts of the Masonic fathers, or to say that for fifty years the work of Templarism has been a swindle and a cheat.

The fifth annual conclave was held at Des Moines, October, 20, 1868, Sir J. R. Hartsock, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and eleven Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander, after eloquently inculcating the duties which devolve upon all Knights Templar, proceeds to render an account of his stewardship. Peace and prosperity prevail throughout his jurisdiction. After visiting several of the subordinates, he found a slight difference of opinion in relation to some portions of the ritual, and concluded to defer further visits until after the meeting of the Grand Encampment, at which he expected to witness an exemplification of the ritual and drill. In this he was disappointed; but, in conversation with many of the Sir Knights present on that occasion, found that, with a few minor exceptions, the work and ritual of all the Grand Commanderies correspond with each other. He was present at the exemplification of the English ritual by Sir Alfred Creigh, and says he was "very much pleased" with it, but adds:

I very much doubt the propriety of even attempting to make any change whatever in our present system, which has been practiced so long in the United States. An attempt of this kind, in my opinion, would be the entering wedge to confusion and discord, and endanger the existence of Templar Masonry, and destroy even the Grand Encampment.

We are gratified to find the Grand Commander advocating a devoted and generous loyalty to the Grand Encampment, and, in order to cement more firmly the bonds of union among its constituents, he recommends the appointment of representatives to all the Grand Commanderies with whom his Grand Body is in fraternal correspondence. The committee to whom the address was referred, did not however approve of this "wholesale" recommendation, but suggested that only such appointments be confirmed as are in reciprocity of like appointments made by other Grand Commanderies, and their report was adopted.



After referring to the fact that he was "the first in Iowa to cross the threshold of the Lodge from the outer world," and that he had labored in the cause of Masonry for nearly thirty years, and had been honored with many distinguished positions, Grand Commander Hartsock closes his address by expressing the desire that, being now in the decline of life, he be allowed to retire to the ranks as an humble private.

The usual routine of business was transacted. An invitation to a banquet tendered by Des Moines Commandery was accepted, but we miss the public installation and oration, which form such an interesting portion of the doings of this Grand Body. A resolution, however, was adopted which provides for these ceremonies being celebrated with proper eclat at the next annual conclave.

A very able report on Fraternal Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of nineteen Grand Commanderies, was presented by the Grand Recorder, Sir W. B. Langridge. We consider this change in the title of these reports eminently proper, for State Grand Commanderies being constituents of the Grand Encampment cannot be considered "foreign" bodies. Our proceedings for 1868 receive favorable mention. In regard to the funeral service, Sir Knight Langridge prefers that of the third degree, and feelingly remarks:

Views on this as on other questions, must of course differ, and Sir Knights have preferences for ritual and association, but standing where the writer of these lines does in our society, he would feel that any honor done him by the performance of the ceremonies of high Masonry over his grave, to the exclusion of that pertaining to the Master's Lodge, would but poorly compensate for the pain that might touch some heart that loved him, because he was by such choice excluded. He would prefer no ceremony whatever to a mere empty pageant, but he would deem it far worse than either if the humblest brother who cared for his memory should be prevented from receiving the consolation of helping to lay him in his last resting place.

Noticing the hostile attitude assumed by the Grand Commanderies of Missouri and Wisconsin against the foreign Rites, he says:

In Missouri a Knight is forbidden knightly privileges for being a Scottish Mason, in Wisconsin for being a Memphian one. If this goes much further, we suppose that in some jurisdiction he will be excluded if he goes to an unfashionable church, or do not burn the orthodox amount of gunpowder on the ever-glorious Fourth.

The trouble is, we are getting too much Masonry and too little tolerance. Knighthood is a good thing, and so is Scottish Masonry, and so, too, is Memphian; but better than all is charity, and a sturdy, steadfast determination to mind one's own business and let his neighbor enjoy his whim in peace.

"This is neither my coat nor my cake;  
Why do I meddle with other men's charges?  
The fishes swim abroad in the lake  
And pay no heed to the barges;"

And are much the wiser and happier for their forbearance. When will Masons learn so much of wisdom as will make them tolerant? will make them see that every man has a right to his opinion and to freedom of action so long as he injures nobody else? Oh, for the good times just before, or far behind us, when it will be a man's greatest aim and strongest effort to render his fellow men happier by tolerance and charity, and helping him to find his greatest happiness wherever it may lay, rather than by trying to compel him to find it in some way that his persecutor thinks best for him.

All such action as this of Missouri and Wisconsin is uncalled for, unwise, and beyond the province of a Commandery of Knights Templar, which is only stirring up bad blood instead of conserving the ends of peace and good will, when it takes such a course, and we hope wiser counsel will prevail in future.

To all which we say, Amen !

Sir Knight Langridge is opposed to any change in the ritual, and like his predecessor has his "brick bat" to throw at the Grand Encampment. He remarks:

There are many circumstances to which we yield, rather than engage in an unfruitful contest. And while, after careful examination, we can see but small advantage and few arguments for the existence of the Grand Encampment, we rather submit to its domination than fight it—deeming rather peace than the Grand Encampment an advantage.

Again, referring to the triennial session of the Grand Encampment, at St. Louis, he says:

We are glad to be able to report that "nothing was done." Next best to no Grand Encampment, is one that does nothing; and were we sure that the relative proportions of the business done to the hospitalities extended at all the future sessions of this most respectable body would preserve so striking a similarity to the Falstaffian quantities of bread and sack, we should probably be inclined to shout "Long live the King!" with the most loyal.

While this is in marked contrast to the noble loyalty which pervades the address of the Grand Commander, it is worthy of note that the malcontents do not agree among themselves. Sir Knight Guilbert wants the Grand Body to become "aggressive," but Sir Knight Langridge considers a Grand Encampment that does nothing, next best to having none. Verily, our Iowa fraters are hard to please.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 11; Membership, 484; Created, 72.

Sir P. F. Bower was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir W. B. Langridge, re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

KENTUCKY.—The twenty-first annual conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in Maysville, June 11, 1868, Sir Charles R. Woodruff, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and eight subordinates represented. The address of the Grand Commander is brief, but clearly written. In his visits to the subordinate Commanderies, he was "much gratified to observe the entire uniformity and correctness of the work; the growing attention and care that is being devoted to the drill; and the harmony and knightly courtesy that so generally prevail." This affords him "much greater satisfaction than to report a largely increased membership, selected without discrimination and jealous care," and he adds:

In fact, the rage for a large number of degrees which seems to obtain in some parts of the State, betokens, it is feared, but little good to legitimate Masonry—to which latter we should especially concentrate our efforts at this time, when some specks on the horizon seem to threaten our beloved fraternity with more persecutions; while on the other hand, a multiplicity of degrees, it is much to be apprehended, will more insidiously, but not less surely, effect greater harm than the direst anti-masonic crusade that our fraternity has ever encountered.

These remarks are well-timed, but we are afraid the evil has become too great to be easily remedied. The Lodge, Chapter and Commandery are neglected for bodies where high sounding titles and tinsel decorations are obtained, if not "without money and without price," with but little of that zeal and application which is required to procure a true Masonic reputation. So far as the Foreign Rites are concerned, we consider them of little value intrinsically, but, captivated by their glare and glitter, the many will have these degrees—

and we say, let them. To make war upon the Foreign Rites would only raise them to an importance they do not deserve.

Sir Knight Woodruff is opposed to any attempt to re-organize the ritual, but suggests that so much information should be communicated to the Sir Knights as would enable them to visit in foreign countries; the suggestion, however, was not adopted.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again from the pen of the genial Grand Recorder, Sir William C. Munger, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Commanderies in an able manner. Our proceedings for 1868 receive a favorable notice, and liberal extracts are given from the address of Grand Commander Todd and the report on Foreign Correspondence.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 9; Membership, 417; Created, 49.

Sir J. M. Worrell was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir William C. Munger re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

**MAINE.**—The annual conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in Portland, May 5, 1868, Sir Moses Dodge, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and ten Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander reports that prosperity, peace and harmony reign throughout the borders of his jurisdiction, and his statement of official acts performed shows him to be an able and efficient officer. Accompanied by several officers of the Grand Commandery and four subordinate Commanderies, numbering over 200 Sir Knights, he assisted at the dedication of the new Masonic Temple at Boston, in June, 1867, and the services rendered on that occasion were acknowledged in the general order of thanks issued by the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts. During the year he issued dispensations for the formation of two new Commanderies. He recommends that the minimum for conferring the orders of Knighthood be made not less than thirty dollars, and that the statutes be amended so that a unanimous vote, by secret ballot, shall be required in order to permit a rejected candidate to apply for, or receive the orders in any other Commandery than that in which he was rejected. The Committee on Jurisprudence reported favorably on this recommendation, and the report was accepted, but final action postponed until the next annual conclave.

Sir Josiah H. Drummond presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, and like everything which comes from the pen of this gifted Sir Knight, it is able and instructive. The proceedings of twenty-two Grand Commanderies, including our own for 1867 and 1868, are reviewed in knightly and courteous terms. Noticing our remarks (in the report for 1867) on a decision of Sir Knight Gardner, of Massachusetts, he agrees with us "that all public processions should be under the control of the Grand Lodge or its representative, the M. W. Grand Master," and adds:

But if Templars choose to appear in a public procession, as *Templars*, and not as a part of the Masonic portion of the procession, we hold that the Grand Master has no authority over them, although the Grand Lodge may itself be in the procession. But all portions of a *Masonic* procession should be under the command of the Grand Master, when he appears in it as such.

We fully concur in this; but, while admitting the right, we question the propriety of Templars acting independently on such occasions. In his notice of

our proceedings for 1868, he quotes at length and approvingly from the address of Sir Knight Todd.

Sir Knight Drummond regrets the manner in which the discussion between Sir Knight Gouley and Bro. A. Pike has been conducted, and remarks that "in a Masonic discussion there should never be a strife for victory for *victory's* sake, or for the mere glory or notoriety of the *advocate*." He thinks that Sir Knight Gouley should "have confined himself to his alleged improper designs of Bro. Pike, instead of attacking the Rite itself," and, in answer to the assertion that "the Scottish Rite was manufactured in Charleston about 1803," states that "in 1761, Francken established a body of the Scotch Rite in Albany, [N. Y.,] in which the same ritual is now used as was used by Francken more than one hundred years ago." He analyzes and refutes several of Sir Knight Gouley's arguments in a clear and logical manner, but we have not the space to reproduce his remarks; nor is it necessary, as he adds his "own testimony as one not unfamiliar with the rituals and principles of Knighthood, or of the Scottish Rite as practiced in the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States, that there is nothing in either to prevent the two Rites from being the closest allies of each other.

Referring to the remarkable prosperity enjoyed by Templar Masonry, Sir Knight Drummond says:

If there has been failure in *any* respect, it has been in not cultivating sufficiently the *religious* element of our institution. How can we be said to "draw our swords in defence of the Christian religion," when living in disregard of its precepts? Intemperance and profanity and their kindred vices are crimes against Masonry in all its degrees, but especially against Knighthood. *These* are the foes with which we must cope: *these* are the enemies against which our swords must be drawn; if we can triumph over these, we may well expect when our warfare here is accomplished, to enter upon the rewards that await the valiant and *true* Templar. To us are especially applicable the words of the grand old mediæval hymn,

"And now we fight the battle, but then shall wear the crown  
Of pure and everlasting and passionless renown;  
And now we watch and struggle, and now we live in hope,  
And Syon in her anguish with Babylon must cope;  
But He, whom now we trust in, shall then be seen and known,  
And they that know and see Him shall have Him for their own."

The report contains a valuable statistical table, from which we learn that 24 Grand Commanderies (Mississippi not included) return 276 subordinates, with 18,321 members—3,712 of whom were created during the year. Sir Knight Drummond has made a specialty of this laborious work, and the tables in his reports to all the Grand Bodies are more carefully prepared and more complete than any we have seen. At the same time, we consider that this duty more properly devolves on Grand Recorders and Grand Secretaries than on Committees on Correspondence.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 11; Membership, 762; Created, 172.

Sir Moses Dodge, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Ira Berry, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.—The semi-annual assembly of this "Grand Encampment" was held in Boston, May 8, 1867, at which "M. E. Grand Master" Titus presided and twenty-three "Encampments"

were represented. The death of Sir Henry Butler, Grand Generalissimo, "a man of earnest convictions, most generous and noble impulses, and true and ardent in his friendships," was announced and appropriate resolutions adopted. On this occasion the stall of the Grand Generalissimo, by order of the Grand Master, was draped in the following elaborate manner:

A velvet pall with silver fringe lay upon the throne, bearing a large Latin cross of purple silk embroidered with silver, while across the transepts and nave were the words in silver, "I will arise again;" upon the canopy above were winged cherubs in silver, while the entire pall was surmounted by a purple shield bearing in gold a pair of compasses upon the segment of a circle, with the letter "G" between the legs of the compasses; the shield was surrounded by a silver serpent with its tail in its mouth; above the whole glittered a large silver star of five points. In front of the stall was a chaplet of fragrant flowers, in a large purple vase.

A special assembly was held June 24, 1867, for the purpose of assisting the M. W. Grand Lodge in the ceremonies connected with the completion and dedication of the new Masonic Temple in Boston. A large portion of the pamphlet is occupied with the proceedings upon that occasion, which were fully described in the public prints at the time. The display of Templars was the greatest ever witnessed in the United States. The Grand Encampment and its subordinates were out in full force; the Grand Commanderies of New York, New Hampshire and Maine, with twenty-nine subordinates, and delegations from nearly as many more, and twenty-four bands of music, were present. The total number of Templars was 2420, and, after escorting the Grand Lodge, they were marched to Boston Common, where a grand review closed the pageant.

The annual assembly was held in Boston, October 30, 1867, the Grand Master presiding and twenty-two subordinates represented. The annual address is a very interesting paper, giving in detail the official duties performed by the Grand Master. He says, "we have peace, harmony and good will in all our borders;" he reports the finances of his Grand Body in an excellent condition, and constantly accumulating, and states that its relations with sister jurisdictions are of the most pleasant nature. In a general review of the condition of Templarism in the States of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, he finds much reason not only for gratification, but also for devout thanksgiving to Him from whom we derive every good and perfect gift, and adds:

The influence of this Order in cultivating and promoting a true manhood, is felt and acknowledged by our members, and is manifest in their intercourse with each other. The obligations of an exalted friendship are more clearly seen and the demands of such friendship more cheerfully met, by those who have carefully studied the sublime lessons which are taught within our asylums, and have bowed together at the shrine of our departed Lord. We meet here as we do not and cannot meet elsewhere. In the world we have our business pursuits and associations; our professional labors and connections; our ecclesiastical fellowship and duties. But here we assemble from all the pursuits of life, and enjoy the blessings of a true friendship with those with whom we never otherwise should have met. Clergymen of different denominations are not hindered in their grasp of friendship and brotherly love, by any sectarian differences which may elsewhere exist. Lawyers, who may have differed in their arguments and pleas before the court and jury, forget all differences here. Politicians, who, in contending earnestly for their faith, often find hard and bitter words the only kind they deem suitably characteristic of their opponents, here seem utterly oblivious of any contention, except that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree,

These asylums, so happily established within our jurisdiction, are our precious resting places from the jars, divisions, business anxieties, and the hurry and turmoil of life. The man who can pass through our solemn ceremonies and gain admission to the rights and privileges of our asylums, and not have his better nature aroused to healthful action, his religious emotions and susceptibilities excited and increased, and his whole manhood made better, does not deserve to be a man among men.

During the year, two charters and one dispensation were granted. The business transacted is of local interest, but we cannot refrain from noticing that a well-deserved vote of thanks was tendered Grand Master Titus for the great ability, zeal and courtesy he had so signally displayed in his high official position.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 24; Membership, 2700; Created, 490.

Sir Wm. W. Baker was elected M. E. Grand Master, and Sir Solon Thornton re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

MINNESOTA.—As mentioned in our report of last year, four Commanderies, working under the Grand Encampment of the United States, by virtue of a warrant from the Grand Master, met in St. Paul, October 23, 1865, and formed the Grand Commandery of Minnesota.

The first annual communication was held in the same city, June 25, 1866, Sir Geo. W. Prescott, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and three Commanderies represented. A constitution and regulations were adopted, and the usual local business transacted.

The second annual conclave was held June 24, 1867, at Minneapolis, Sir A. E. Ames, Deputy Grand Commander, presiding, and three Commanderies represented. Resolutions complimentary to Sir Geo. W. Prescott, their first Grand Commander, who had removed to Tennessee, were adopted, but no business of general interest was transacted. Sir S. Y. McMasters presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. It reviews the proceedings of four Grand Commanderies, including our own for 1867, in a courteous and fraternal manner, and regrets that the non-receipt of the proceedings of the greater number of sister Commanderies prevented a full report.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 4; Members, 250; Created, 30.

Sir E. A. Ames was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir George A. Savory, E. Grand Recorder.

MISSOURI.—The eighth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in St. Louis, October 5, 1868, Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and five Commanderies represented.

The annual address is principally devoted to the defence of the position assumed by the Grand Commandery against the propagation of the A. and A. S. Rite within its jurisdiction, and Sir Knight Gouley glories in having been expelled from that Rite by the Supreme Council of Charleston. In our last report, we gave a synopsis of the controversy between Sir Knight Gouley and Bro. Pike, which led to this result, and regretted the unmasonic spirit in which it had been conducted. In his address, Sir Knight Gouley re-states his objections to the A. and A. S. Rite, urging that its form of government is oligarchical, that its constitutions assume the control of the symbolic degrees, although for the present the Supreme Council waives that right, and asserting "that its

rituals traduce the solemnity and traditions of the Symbolic, the Chapitular and Templar degrees," for which he "can furnish the proof whenever required."

The subject has attracted the attention of the most prominent Masons throughout the country, and Sir Knights Drummond and Simons, whose zeal and devotion to the York Rite cannot be questioned, declare that there is nothing in the A. and A. S. Rite, *per se*, inimical to the American system of Freemasonry. Both Sir Knights, however, belong to the Northern Jurisdiction, where the form of government differs in some respects from that which prevails in the Southern Jurisdiction, and where the Pike rituals have not been introduced. But if Sir Knight Gouley's objections to these rituals are well founded, he should have confined himself to them, instead of attacking the Rite, as we do not see how the Rite can be held responsible for the construction alleged to have been placed upon it by Bro. Pike. The general current of opinion, upon this subject, coincides with that expressed in our report of last year, when, doubting the propriety of the resolutions adopted by the Grand Commandery of Missouri, we held that, as Templars, we have no more control over the A. and A. S. Rite than we have over any of the imitative societies of the day.

During the recess, the Grand Commander issued three dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies, and he confidently predicts a brilliant future for our Order from "the bright promises of the present." He returns thanks to the committees whose indefatigable exertions rendered the reception and entertainment of the Grand Encampment so triumphant a success; also to the Sir Knights throughout the State, who, by their presence and material aid, supported the movement; and to the Sir Knights from other jurisdictions, who assisted with their presence and co-operation on the occasion, he extends the thanks of his Grand Commandery. In testimony of the appreciation entertained by the members of the Grand Encampment for the unbounded hospitality extended to them by the Grand Commandery, he submitted a letter received from the M. E. Grand Master, Sir W. S. Gardner, who, after acknowledging that every care and attention had been bestowed upon the delegates of Knighthood during their sojourn in St. Louis, adds:

The Knights and Companions of Missouri have placed the whole fraternity of the United States under the deepest obligations for the brotherly love and knightly courtesy which have been so nobly displayed in the truly loyal reception of the representatives of Masonry and Knighthood from all parts of the Union.

Sir Knight Gouley has adopted the system of mutual representation, in order to cement more closely the bonds of fraternal and knightly courtesy between his own and sister Grand Commanderies, and conferred the appointment of representative of his Grand Body near our own upon Sir Joseph P. Hornor.

He calls attention to the impropriety of allowing any Sir Knight to visit drinking, billiard or other saloons, with his uniform on, and very correctly remarks:

A Knight Templar, as a citizen, is one character, and is, to a reasonable extent, an independent one; but a Knight Templar, *as such*, wearing the beautiful and sacred emblems belonging to his dress; is quite another charac-

ter, and it must be maintained at any and every sacrifice. This is an evil not to be much complained of in this jurisdiction, and, by proper discipline and reflection, it can be entirely abolished.

The Grand Commander recommended that a "Grand Encampment should be held at some point in the State, once a year, about the latter part of May—the Sir Knights to assemble in tents, and spend a week in drill and review." The committee to whom the subject was referred, reported favorably upon it, but at their suggestion further consideration of the same was postponed until the next annual conclave.

During the session, R. E. Sir Thos. W. Chandler, of Georgia, was installed as Grand Warden of the Grand Encampment of the United States, by R. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, Deputy Grand Master. The usual routine of business was transacted, and the Grand Recorder, Sir A. B. M. Thompson presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, which acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of eighteen Grand Commanderies, our own included, and notices their "doings" in the briefest possible manner. In the whole report there is only one instance where Sir Knight Thompson deviates from this, and that is in noticing the report of Sir Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine. But, instead of attempting to refute the arguments advanced by Sir Knight Drummond, he says:

Being the Sovereign Grand Commander of the A. and A. Rite of the Northern Jurisdiction, it was naturally to be expected that he would disagree with the address of our Grand Commander on that question last year; but as he seems totally ignorant of the vast difference existing between the rituals of the Southern and Northern Jurisdictions, it is also to be expected that he knows but little, if any, of the reasons which prompted the address of our Grand Commander, or the resolutions of this Grand Body. He discusses the whole question from his own stand-point, and as there is no means of our comparing the real gist of the difficulty existing in the assumptions of Bro. Pike, we will not enter into any contest with Sir Knight Drummond.

He thus virtually concedes the point in issue, viz: that Grand Commander Gouley should have confined himself to the alleged improper motives of Bro. Pike and attacked them instead of attacking the Rite itself.

Appended to the proceedings are the orders issued, and the arrangements made for the reception of the members of the Grand Encampment; lists of the visiting Sir Knights at the various hotels, and a full account, compiled from the papers of the day, of the parade, excursion, banquet and general festivities which attended the Triennial Assembly of the Grand Encampment at St Louis, in September, 1868.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 10; Membership, 413; Created, 111.

Sir James F. Aglar was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir George Frank Gouley, E. Grand Recorder.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE.**—This Grand Commandery only publishes its proceedings every three years, and the present pamphlet contains those of 1865, 1866, and 1867. At the annual conclave of 1865, five Commanderies were represented, Sir Charles A. Tufts was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and the usual business transacted. At the annual conclave of 1866, the Grand Commandery was opened by a Past Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder being the only Grand Officers present, and two



Commanderies represented. We doubt the propriety and question the power to open under the circumstances. At the afternoon session the Deputy Grand Commander made his appearance; but, in consideration that so few of the Grand Officers and members were present, no election was held—the officers holding over, by resolution, for another year—and the Grand Commandery was closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

1867—The annual conclave was held in Concord, September 24, Sir Charles A. Tufts, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding; six chartered Commanderies and one U. D. represented. The address of the Grand Commander, although relating principally to local matters, has a practical value and evinces his zeal for the prosperity of our Order. The differences in the work lead him to suggest the appointment of a committee to take the subject into consideration; he recommends the adoption of a minimum fee for the orders, and thinks it should be larger than heretofore; and urges upon the Sir Knights not only to uniform themselves, but to have appropriate armories. Referring to the popularity of Masonry at the present day, he says:

I would earnestly urge upon the subordinate Commanderies of this jurisdiction, the greatest care in admitting members; it is better to reject three good men than to admit one who is unworthy. If there is any doubt about the character of an applicant, postpone the consideration of his case until satisfactory information is obtained, and if he is not fully up to the standard of a true Sir Knight, do not admit him to your Asylum. An unworthy man may gain admission to our Lodges; but do not admit any one to our beloved Order without he is every way qualified to become a Knight among our number. I deem this caution of the utmost importance at the present time, and I beg you to give it all the consideration that its necessity demands.

Too much care cannot be bestowed to render our beautiful ritual exemplified as it should be. If each officer would strive to perform his part as well as it can be done, not according to his own ideas, but according to the best literary taste, our meetings would always be attractive and interesting. We should recollect that what is worth doing at all is worth doing well. All have not had the same advantages as others, but most of us can, by study and care, greatly improve the manner in which the work of our Order is generally performed. But, above all, Sir Knights, we should see that in our own lives and characters we exemplify the principles of our Order. It is not enough that we wear the badge and uniform of a Sir Knight. To be a true Sir Knight, we should daily in our walk and conversation be governed by the beautiful principles of our Order. If we are so governed, if we so exemplify our principles, we shall be better sons, better husbands, better citizens, better men and better Christians; and when our time for departure comes, "with malice toward none, with charity to all," we shall be ready as good soldiers, to pass from things temporal to things eternal. So living, and so dying, it can well be said of each of us, "he has not lived in vain."

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Sir William Barrett, who, in an able and courteous manner, reviews the proceedings of seventeen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1867, among the number. His views are generally correct, but there are two points on which we cannot agree with him. He objects to the decision of Grand Commander Sir Knight Ranney, of Illinois, that a belief in the Divinity of our Saviour is a necessary qualification for the Order of the Temple, and says: "We think a man may well deny the Divinity of our Saviour, and yet be a good and consistent Christian, and conscientiously promise to draw his sword in the defence of Christianity. As our Order is founded upon the Christian religion and the practice

of the Christian virtues, we hold that a belief in the Divinity of the author and finisher of our faith is as essential to obtain the honors of Christian Knighthood, as is a belief in the existence of Deity to entitle a profane to initiation in a Blue Lodge. He also dissents from the decision that a Grand Commander has no power to make a Templar at sight, and thinks, "there can be no good reason why the same principle which has always obtained in Symbolic Masonry, agreeably to the ancient constitutions, should not obtain in Templar Masonry." As the "ancient constitutions" confer no such power upon the Grand Master, the reference to them is unfortunate; Grand Commanders are constitutional officers, and can legally exercise no powers except such as are conferred upon them by the constitution.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 8; six of which return a Membership of 456; Created, 96.

Sir Charles A Tufts, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Horace Chase, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

**NEW JERSEY.**—The ninth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in Trenton, September 10, 1867, Sir William W. Snow, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and five subordinates represented, Sir Knight Snow makes a lucid statement of his official acts and congratulating the Sir Knights upon the flourishing condition of our Order, says:

Prosperity, far beyond the most sanguine expectation, has crowned the progress of the Order during the past year. Peace and harmony, those stars of beauty in the Masonic Order, have shed their influence throughout this jurisdiction. The most fraternal feeling has existed among the Grand Officers, their intercourse has been exceedingly pleasant and most cordial. The financial condition of this Grand Body is flattering, and much more so than could have been expected.

The Grand Commandery having accepted an invitation from the Grand Lodge of Maryland to be present at the laying of the corner-stone of their new Temple in Baltimore, on November 20, 1866, the Deputy Grand Commander, Sir Geo. H. Woolman, in the absence of his chief, took charge of the Grand Commandery upon that occasion, and bears testimony to the knightly courtesy received from the Templars of Maryland, adding: "The intercourse of our Grand Commandery with the Sir Knights from Richmond, Va., was of the most pleasing and cordial nature." So mote it ever be!

The Grand Recorder, Sir Thomas J. Corson, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of seventeen Grand Commanderies, Louisiana for 1867 included. The report is light and sparkling, and overflows with genuine humor.

On a visit to the fourteenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, he says "the barbarous people showed us no little kindness," and he became acquainted with the value of the "medicinal waters" of the "lovely *Monongahela*." From his *spirited* account of his pilgrimage on that occasion we extract the following:

Of course we had a public parade, for the valiant Keystoneers are not inclined to let their light (of their equipments) be hid, and at the slightest provocation they "rush to arms" with as much apparent pleasure as a young African feels in displaying his "store clothes" at Quarterly Meeting. (As in the great historical painting of Daniel in the Lion's Den, Daniel is easily distinguishable from the other animals by the blue cotton umbrella under his arm; so the New

Jersey Sir Knights in the parade could readily be known from the natives by their superior martial bearing and beauty of visage.)

His notice of our own proceedings is very brief: referring to some remarks we made upon the address of Grand Commander Stevens, he considers them "eminently unjust," and "kindly advises our good frater [that's us] to try to get in a better humor hereafter." *Per contra*: Sir Knight Guilbert, of Iowa, commenting upon the same report, says it appears to have been written "with an evident desire to avoid wounding the feelings of the most thin-skinned reader." Both reviewers are Knights of the Lancet, and this is a diagnosis as is a diagnosis. "Who can decide when Doctors disagree." A man may escape from the hands of one M. D., but there is little hope when two prescribe for him. We are afraid some one will soon have to write our epitaph.

*Statistics*: Commanderies, 5; Membership, 201; Created, 59.

Sir G. H. Woolman was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Thomas J. Corson re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

NEW YORK.—The fifty-fifth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in the city of New York, October 5, 1868, Sir John A. Lefferts, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and thirty-five Grand Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander returns thanks to our kind Father in Heaven that the portals of the Grand Asylum had not been entered during the year by the fell destroyer; that "no strife, no contention, or unworthy aspiration" had disturbed the government of the body, and that "with peace, love and good will prevailing," he had had literally nothing to do. He granted one dispensation for the formation of a new Commandery, and attended the Triennial Session of the Grand Encampment at St. Louis. As no questions of importance came before that body, he submits no special report, but says the pageant and festivities on the occasion were fully equal to those described in the romances of the olden time. Noticing the rise and progress of chivalry, and the duties it inculcated, he says the codes, the rules and laws of the knights of old have passed away, but eloquently adds:

Not so with the grand idea that animated them—honor, truth and justice. This idea, now united with the Christian religion, is with us still, and finds its dwelling within our hearts. For there is scarcely a noble feeling or a bright aspiration among ourselves, that is not referable, in some degree, to the golden spirit of chivalry. We may not go forth, as did the knights of old, clothed in steel and armed with lance, and axe, and mace, to strike sturdy blows in defence of their rights and their God. No: our appeal lies through the human heart. The weak, the defenceless, the widow and orphan, are always with us; and with them and through them, we shall serve our Master in heaven. And as the Star of Bethlehem rose to guide the wise men of the East, so shall the bright star of our Order guide us in our course onward and upward, praying ever for that reward promised by the great Captain of our salvation. Shine on, fair star! and by thy silvery light shall the good Templar see the full fruition of his hopes; when the evening of a well-spent life draws nigh, and the sands of life are run, thy rays shall illumine and unfold to his enrapt vision, the grand cohorts of heaven marching in their robes of spotless white, under the banner of the Cross upon whose ample folds are inscribed, in letters of living light, "By this sign we conquer." And the Grand Commander of all shall say, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou here and sit at my right hand!"

Past Grand Commanders' jewels were presented to Sir Knights Ezra S. Barnum, William E. Lathrop and John W. Simons, as testimonials of the affection and esteem entertained for them individually, and in appreciation of their services in the cause of Templar Masonry. The appropriate remarks of the Grand Prelate, who presented the jewels, and the feeling and eloquent replies of the recipients are duly chronicled. On the second day of the session, the ceremony was repeated; Sir John W. Simons presenting a similar jewel, and a beautifully engrossed copy of the resolutions of the Grand Commandery, to P. G. Commander Sir Pearson Mundy. The presentation speech and the remarks of the recipient, expressive of his thanks and appreciation of the favors conferred are reported in full. We hope our distinguished fraters will long live to wear the *garants d'amitié* so worthily bestowed.

The following questions were submitted to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

1. What right (if any) has a Commandery of Knights Templar at a funeral, the lodge of which the deceased Sir Knight was a member, being present, and at his request and the request of his widow in charge of the remains?
2. Should the Commandery wish to perform the Templar service, at what time and place under the above circumstances, is it proper to do so?
3. Under the above circumstances, where is the proper position for the Commandery to march; should it be before the lodge, behind the hearse, or as an escort for the lodge and hearse?

The following answers were returned by the committee, concurred in by the Grand Commandery, and receive our fullest approbation:

1. The Commandery has no right in the matter, the wishes of the deceased and those of his friends governing.
2. It would not be proper to perform it at all under the circumstances.
3. They would act, if at all, as escort, and precede the lodge.

A carefully prepared code of Statutes and Regulations, prepared by Sir John W. Simons, was adopted.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by Sir John W. Simons, who reviews in a very able and genial manner the proceedings of twenty-three Grand Commanderies. Louisiana receives an extended and friendly notice. Alluding to our exception to the decision of Grand Commander Mundy in regard to the accolade, he states the decision was misprinted, "absence" being substituted for "presence." He says the idea sought to be conveyed in the decision was that although the Commander might allow any regular Knight to deliver the words of the ritual in his presence, he should reserve to himself the act of giving the accolade; and that "in the absence of the Commander, the officer presiding, *ex officio*, would, of course, enjoy all his prerogatives." This is our own opinion. He admits that if there is "any justification for dispensations, the peculiar situation in Louisiana would furnish it," but holds, and we agree with him, that dispensations should not be granted for the benefit of residents in the city. He differs with us in regard to the law of physical qualifications, and has incorporated the decision of Grand Commander Welch, to which we objected, in the new code of Statutes and Regulations. There is nothing in his argument to induce us to change the opinion we have repeatedly expressed, and as Sir John is determined to hold on to his, we say "quits" and agree to disagree.

In our notice of Illinois, we gave Sir J. H. Drummond's comments upon

Grand Commander Lanphere's opinion in regard to the importance of the "drill." Sir Knight Simons comes to the rescue, fully agrees with the Grand Commander, and, dissenting from Sir Knight Drummond's remarks, adds:

We do not believe any more than he does in making the military feature of the Order the *sine qua non* of our organization, neither do we think that it should be neglected, but that it should progress side by side with the moral drill so that our neophytes may be *au fait* in both. The ancient Order from which we derive our inspiration, was emphatically a military institution, and acquired more renown at the point of the sword than in the devotions of the cloister.

In our Commanderies the drill corresponds with the ritual in the symbolic Lodge. There everything is done decently and in order, and every brother present is expected to assist when called upon, and to be able to do so after the recognized and established fashion. In like manner it appears to us that our Sir Knights should be competent to obey orders in accordance with military etiquette, and that every Commander should be able to open and close his Commandery in form as promptly and with as much regard to the general mode as though he were acting Master of a Blue Lodge.

For Templars then to discard the military feature of the Order is tantamount to striking out the peculiar ceremonial of the preceding organizations, and reducing matters to the abstract teachings of the ritual. Each branch of the institution has its peculiar forms and neither can afford to dispense with those which distinguish it from the other.

There is much in the above we approve, but we fail to see the point of the remarks when applied to the comments of Sir Knight Drummond. No one proposes "to discard the military feature of the Order," but we do not wish to see "fuss and feathers" become the primary feature of our institution.

Commenting upon the Pike-Gouley controversy, Sir Knight Simons, says:

We venture to believe as Uncle Toby did when he put the fly out at the window, that there is room enough in the world for both of us, and to deprecate the attempt to set up a contest over abstractions which cannot by any possibility redound to the credit of Masonry. During all the years of our Masonic life the Scottish Rite has existed side by side with Templar Masonry; belonging to both we have never perceived any tendency to antagonism, nor felt that our oath of fealty to the Supreme Council militated against our vows as a Templar. As in trade to cry down a neighbor's merchandise is not the best recommendation for one's own, so we think that the attempt to make war upon another Rite is not the best way to commend the one we may prefer, to say nothing of the danger incurred by those who make the raid of meeting a like fate with the adventurous Knight of La Mancha when he fell upon the wind-mill.

Past Grand Commander Sir Samuel M. Todd, being in New York, visited the Grand Commandery, and was received with knightly ceremonies, and invited to a seat during the session.

The sum of two hundred dollars was appropriated and the thanks of the Grand Commandery tendered to Sir John W. Simons, for his services as chairman of the Committees on Correspondence and Jurisprudence.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 36; Membership, 4094; Created, 761.

Sir John A. Lefferts, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Robert Macoy, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The fifteenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery was held in Scranton, June 9, 1868, Sir Jeremiah L. Hutchinson, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and twenty-four chartered Commanderies and three U. D. represented.

The report of the Grand Commander is principally devoted to rendering an account of his stewardship. His official acts and visits are detailed with minuteness, and testify to the efficiency of his administration. He granted three dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies; divided the State into eight divisions, and compliments the Sir Knights appointed to these commands for having faithfully performed their duties, and thereby relieved him of much labor. As the Grand Officers are elected from distant localities in the State, he suggests that the Grand Commander be empowered to appoint a Deputy Grand Recorder, residing near him, whose duties should be to keep a correct account of all his actions and correspondence. But this suggestion was not acted upon.

The reports of the Division Commanders justify the encomiums bestowed upon them by the Grand Commander for zeal and ability, and show that our Order is in a flourishing and prosperous condition throughout the land of Penn. A Past Grand Commander's jewel was adopted, in the selection of which the committee were guided by that worn by Provincial Grand Masters of the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, and a jewel of this description is to be presented to all Past Grand Commanders, and one also to Sir Alfred Creigh, in appreciation of his services as Historiographer.

The Grand Officers were installed in public, on which occasion Sir R. Biddle Roberts delivered an appropriate and eloquent oration.

The Grand Recorder, in accordance with the resolutions of his Grand Commandery, forwarded \$200 to the Grand Commanders of the States of Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana, for the relief of destitute Sir Knights in their respective jurisdictions, all of which had been gratefully acknowledged. The same amount was also appropriated to Mississippi, but he states that notwithstanding the most diligent inquiries among the Sir Knights in the States which have been relieved, he had failed to procure any information in regard to the Sir Knights of our sister State. We are in the same predicament. Anxious to obtain some information in regard to the condition of Templar Masonry in Mississippi, during the past two years, letters have been addressed to the Grand Recorder, Sir D. P. Porter, by ourselves, and to Sir Giles M. Hillyer, by P. Grand Commander Todd—but so far neither of them have vouchsafed a reply.

A petition was received from the members of a Commandery stating that with every requisite to secure success, the Commandery was in a drooping and languishing condition, owing to the selfishness and private resentment of one Sir Knight, and praying that the charter might be annulled and a new one granted—excluding, of course, the objectionable member. After due investigation, the Grand Commandery granted the request, and the act meets our fullest approbation.

The minimum fee for the Orders was fixed at twenty dollars—which we consider altogether too low a figure.

A resolution authorizing the Grand Commander to appoint representatives to any Grand Commandery in the United States, or elsewhere, was adopted. The list of appointments under this resolution is published in the proceedings. and our Past Grand Commander, Sir Samuel M. Todd, is complimented by

being selected as the Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania near our Grand East.

That genial Sir Knight, James H. Hopkins, submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence. The proceedings of twenty-one Grand Commanderies are reviewed in a courteous and fraternal manner. He gives an impartial synopsis of our doings at the conclave of 1868, and adds: "We trust the symbolic banner of our Order will soon wave over other camps in the State than those of the Crescent City, and that without weakening them or impairing their prosperity."

Noticing the exhaustive report of that irrepressible Knight, Sir Guilbert of Iowa, he says:

A prominent feature of the report, observable from every point from which it may be viewed, is its author. His desire to make a model report was a commendable one; to refuse undeserved compliments was right, but to write as if expecting and desiring numerous Rolands for his Olivers is scarcely a better style of criticism than indiscriminate praise. Sir Guilbert goes from State to State with a stick of candy in one hand and a little gall, as an antidote, in the other, thinking thereby to establish himself as an impartial critic.

Rather heavy—but not undeserved. Alluding to the defence made by Sir Knight Guilbert for the onslaught on the Grand Encampment by the Grand Commander of Iowa, Sir Knight Hopkins says he does not "contend that the Grand Encampment is infallible, nor that its proceedings shall not be canvassed, but we do think it was in bad taste, at least, to accept a charter from that Grand Body, and within three years thereafter seek its overthrow." So think we.

Nine memorial tablets are inscribed with the names of the Sir Knights, who during the year, had finished their tour of penance and entered the asylum on high—each Commandery having a separate tablet for its own dead. We consider this a beautiful and appropriate mode of testifying the respect entertained for the memory of our departed companions, and would like to see the practice inaugurated in our own jurisdiction.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 32; Membership, 2207; Created, 612.

Sir John Vallerchamp was elected R. E. Grand Commander and Sir Alfred Creigh re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

**TENNESSEE.**—The seventh annual conclave of this Grand Commandery was held in Nashville, September 28, 1868, Sir John Frizzell, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and six Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander, in a brief but business-like address, states that he had issued one dispensation for the formation of a new Commandery. He was present with all the Grand Officers entitled to seats, and quite a number of the Sir Knights of his jurisdiction as visitors, at the Eighteenth Triennial Session of the Grand Encampment, and says "the meeting was one in every way worthy of the noble Order it represented, and will form an interesting and important epoch in the history of Templar Masonry in the United States." He reports that Templarism was never in a more flourishing condition in his jurisdiction, and is opposed to the present ritual, believing it to be modern, and manufactured in this country by those who did not know, or who for some reason would not use, the ancient English ritual.

The system of mutual representation between sister Grand Commanderies was adopted, and twenty-five dollars appropriated for the purchase of books for the library of the Grand Commandery.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by Sir George S. Blackie, and gives a courteous and impartial synopsis of the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies, our own for 1868 included. He advocates a uniformity in drill, is opposed to ministers of the Gospel receiving the Orders gratis, and favors the English ritual, but, in regard to the Red Cross, remarks: "We much fear that the removal of the degree to its proper place—that is, in our opinion, out of the Commandery—would injure the attendance on the Commandery, as for reasons which the Knights know, the Red Cross ceremonies have an attraction peculiarly their own; but yet we would sacrifice pleasure to truth in history."

The proceedings contain a memorial tablet, with a Latin inscription commemorative of the virtues of the lamented Sir Charles A. Fuller, who died June 5, 1868. We regret, however, that the minutes of the special conclave held June 6, and the resolutions adopted upon the occasion, are omitted in the pamphlet before us. Deeply sympathizing with the Grand Commandery in the great loss it has sustained, we add our feeble tribute to the memory of one, who in all the relations of life displayed in their brightest splendor the virtues which characterize the true Mason and Christian Knight, and whose every action illustrated the line of the poet:

"An honest man's the noblest work of God."

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 9; Membership, 620; Created, 104.

Sir Joseph M. Towler was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John Frizzell, E. Grand Recorder.

TEXAS.—No proceedings received. We learn incidentally that the annual conclave was held in Houston, June 8, 1868, Sir N. B. Yard, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and four Commanderies represented. The business transacted was of local importance, tending to set things to rights. In this we hope the Sir Knights on the other side of the river have been successful and that a new career of prosperity awaits them, at the same time trusting that they will hereafter favor us with a copy of their "doings."

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 5; Membership, 226.

Sir P. W. Gray was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Robert Brewster re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

VERMONT.—This Grand Commandery met in annual conclave in Burlington, June 9, 1868, Sir George M. Hall, R. E. Grand Commander, presiding, and six subordinates represented. The annual address is devoted to matters of local interest, but shows that our Order is enjoying peace and prosperity in the Green Mountain State. The Grand Commander urges upon the Sir Knights the necessity of being "thoroughly appointed and equipped in all respects," and recommends the appointment of a Grand Lecturer in order to secure uniformity of work. He congratulates them upon the great success which has attended Templar Masonry throughout the jurisdiction, and says: "The sublime principles of our Order are becoming better known and appre-



ciated, and scores are flocking to our altars actuated by love to their fellow men, and a sincere desire to be serviceable in every good work." In the midst of this prosperity, he reminds them of the dangers which would arise from a careless admission of unworthy material, and adds:

We want, Sir Knights, none but noble men in this high Order of Masonry, men of high-souled honor, and that love the truth and will upon all occasions act upon it; men that we shall never be ashamed to take by the hand and call them brothers, and feel within our hearts, at the same time, that they are so. Therefore be vigilant and guard well the portals of the Order for in this, in a great degree, lies our strength. Profane not our solemn rites by unworthy association.

Having faithfully discharged the duties of Grand Commander for three terms, Sir Knight Hall closes his address by gracefully acknowledging the honor conferred upon him and declining a re-election.

Sir Russell S. Taft presented a well written report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Commanderies, our own for 1868, included. He adheres to the views he expressed last year in regard to Massachusetts retaining her nomenclature, and remarks: "Excommunication is the surest remedy. Bantering words with any Grand Commandery that resolves to rise or remain in rebellion, illy comports with the dignity of the Grand Encampment." He is strenuously opposed to any change in the present work, and speaks very slightly of the English ritual. He thinks "some exploring Sir Knight in the land of Penn has *struck ile*, and suddenly become rich in the genuine work," adding:

Never having witnessed the new work, we are unable to state with certainty upon the point, but we are informed that this new work is what is practiced in this State in an order denominated the "Five Pointed Star," an order generally conferred in any Masonic gathering after the serious business of the evening is over.

We know very little about side degrees, and that little has not prepossessed us in their favor or induced us to cultivate their acquaintance. Whatever the "Five Pointed Star" may be, we feel certain that it is not the English Order of Templar Knighthood, and think that Sir Knight Taft has been misinformed in this respect. Under the proper heading will be found a notice of the English ritual, which is the ground work of our own; and its solemn ceremonies certainly form no proper subject for travesty or burlesque "in any Masonic gathering after the serious business of the evening is over."

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 6; Membership, 358; Created, 48.

Sir Russell S. Taft was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John B. Hollenbeck re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

VIRGINIA.—The annual assembly was held in Richmond, December 17, 1868, when "the Grand Commandery was drilled, inspected, and encamped in solemn form." Seven Commanderies were represented, and Sir William B. Isaacs presided as Grand Commander. The meeting was held under very disheartening circumstances—the Grand Commander, Sir E. H. Gill, being detained by a protracted and grievous illness, the Deputy Grand Commander was absent on account of pressing business engagements, while the body of the Grand Sentinel, who died on the previous day, had been just brought to the city for interment.

The presiding officer delivered a brief address, in which, after uttering a fervent prayer for the restoration to health and usefulness of Grand Commander Gill, he states that the returns of the subordinates show a gradual increase in membership, and that peace, harmony and prosperity prevail throughout the jurisdiction.

A committee was appointed to visit Grand Commander Gill and express the sorrow felt at his absence and to sympathize with him in his sufferings. Sir Knight Isaacs, from the committee appointed to attend the Grand Encampment and take the necessary steps for the withdrawal of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, made a verbal report, and a resolution was adopted declaring that the course of the delegates to the Grand Body in not introducing the resolutions of withdrawal "was, in a high degree, proper." This gratifying result will be hailed with emotions of sincere pleasure by every true and loyal Knight.

The proceedings of sister Grand Commanderies, our own included, were in the possession of Sir Knight Gill until within a few days before the annual conclave. His long and severe sickness prevented any report on correspondence, further than an acknowledgement of their receipt, with the congratulations of the committee on the general harmony and knightly courtesy which prevails, and a request for a continuance of correspondence.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 11—9 of which return a membership of 629. Creations not stated.

Sir E. H. Gill, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John Dove, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

It is with sincere regret we announce the death of Sir Edward H. Gill. From the circular issued by Sir John R. McDaniel, the Deputy Grand Commander, we learn that on the morning of December 20—the third day after the annual conclave—in the sixty-third year of his age, Grand Commander Gill completed the pilgrimage of life. Truly is it said of him: "No weary Pilgrim passed his tent unassisted; he shared the perils of the Pilgrim Warrior with meekness; in spirit and in truth he knelt with the Pilgrim Penitent at the shrine of our departed and ascended Saviour. The destitute widow and helpless orphan gained easy access to his generous heart—his shield ever ready to protect the innocent maiden, and his faithful sword ready to defend the Christian religion." We sympathize with the Sir Knights of Virginia in the great loss they have sustained, and drop the fraternal tear on the sprig of acacia which blooms at the head of his grave.

WISCONSIN.—The proceedings of this Grand Commandery having failed to reach us, we compile the following notice from the able reports of Sir Knights Drummond and Munger, who were more fortunate than ourselves in receiving copies.

The ninth annual conclave was held in Milwaukee, January 1, 1868; seven Commanderies were represented, and the Grand Commander, Sir Alvin B. Alden, says:

By reference to the returns of the subordinate Commanderies, it is shown that Templar Masonry was never in a more prosperous condition in this juris-

diction than at the present time, provided that a rapid increase in membership is a sure indication of prosperity. \* \* \* \*

I care not how numerous are the additions to our membership, provided such only are admitted as will ever be ready, to the extent of their ability, to "distribute alms to poor and weary pilgrims traveling from afar, to feed the hungry, succor the needy, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted," and otherwise fully discharge the duties incumbent upon them as members of this valiant and magnanimous Order. I deem it my duty, however, again to admonish you of the importance of strictly guarding the avenues of our sacred Asylum, that none but "good men and true" may be admitted to the honors and awards that await the valiant Templar.

A dispensation had been asked for and refused by the Grand Commander; his action was sustained by the Grand Commandery. The constitution was amended so as to make the minimum fee for the Order fifty dollars, and the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That this Grand Commandery acknowledges and recognizes no degrees of Masonry or Orders of Knighthood to be regular, except those conferred by and under the authority of the following constituted authorities in the United States of America, and those of corresponding rank in foreign countries, to-wit: The Grand Encampment of the United States; the Grand Consistory; the General Grand R. A. Chapter of the United States; Grand Councils of R. and S. Masters, and the Grand Lodges of the several States. And any Knight holding to or receiving, or having received any irregular degrees, under the assumed name of Masonry or Knighthood, particularly those known by the name of the "Egyptian Masonry Rite of Memphis," or the "Ancient Primitive Rite of Memphis of thirty-three degrees," shall be required to withdraw therefrom under pain of being expelled from all participation in any of the privileges contained in the provisions of the Statutes of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin, and no Council or Commandery shall be permitted to receive any candidate or visitor into their respective bodies, who in any manner, or in anywise is concerned in or with such clandestine degrees.

Commenting on the above, Sir Knight Munger makes the following remarks, in which we fully concur:

We do not set ourselves up as the champion of the "Rite of Memphis," the "Scotch Rite," or any other "Rite," or side degrees. We honestly believe there are getting to be far too many degrees in this country for any utility—the *real good* which Masonry is intended to accomplish. The great and important truths; the lessons and glorious precepts taught, almost at the thresholds of our institution, are often forgotten, in the desire to gain possession of the so-called "higher degrees."

Seriously, it seems to us that this resolution, with the words "Grand Consistory" inserted instead of the "Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite," was cunningly devised, more as an advertisement of the "Scottish Rite" than as a condemnation of the "Egyptian Rite." We hardly think it proper for any Grand Commandery to decide what degrees of any "Rite" are the irregular and clandestine degrees. None of them are degrees of our American system, and we cannot know what they are until we take them.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Sir Harlow Pease—which increases our regret that the proceedings have not been received.

*Statistics:* Commanderies, 7; Membership, 561; Created, 122.

Sir Alvin B. Alden, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Wm. T. Palmer, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT.—The seventeenth triennial session of the Grand Encampment of the United States was held in St. Louis, September 15, 1868,

Sir Henry L. Palmer, M. E. Grand Master, presiding, and twenty-five Grand and six Subordinate Commanderies represented—session, four days.

After congratulating the Sir Knights on the favorable auspices under which they assembled, and stating that our Order "is making as rapid progress as its most ardent votaries can desire," the Grand Master, in a well-written address, proceeds to render an account of his stewardship. Since the last triennial session he had issued twelve dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies, which are located as follows: Arkansas, one; Colorado, two; Delaware, one; Florida, one; Kansas, two; Maryland, two; Montana, one; Nebraska, one; and Nevada, one. After referring in appropriate terms to the return of the Grand Commanderies of Virginia, Massachusetts and Georgia, to their allegiance to the Grand Encampment, he reports the following decisions:

1. Any member of a Commandery in good standing, is eligible to the office of Commander, notwithstanding he may never have held either the office of Captain-General or Generalissimo.

2. The officers of a Commandery should be elected on the day prescribed in the by-laws of the Commandery for that purpose. It is not necessary that they should be elected on Good Friday.

3. The questions having been submitted to me by letter, I determined, for the purpose of uniformity, that whenever two or more Commanderies appear in public together, the command of the whole devolves upon the Commander of the senior Commandery; and,

4. That in such case the senior Commandery is entitled to the right of the line; adding, however, that a proper exercise of knightly courtesy would, under the circumstances stated, always yield the command to the most experienced and most efficient Commander present, and the right of the line to the best drilled and best equipped Commandery.

5. No one can properly be made a member of our Order, which is "founded on the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues," who is not a firm believer in the religion of Jesus Christ; no one who does not acknowledge Him as the Saviour of mankind, and believe in the atonement offered up by Him on Calvary, can be a worthy Knight Templar. The rules of the Order, however, do not require any further or more definite profession of faith than is comprehended in the ritual. One who ridicules or makes light of the Holy Bible, or scoffs at religion, is an unworthy member of the Order.

6. A Knight Templar in good standing, has the right to object to conferring the orders of Knighthood upon a Companion R. A. Mason in his Commandery, after such Companion has been balloted for and declared elected; and this, whether the objecting Sir Knight was present at the time of balloting or not; and when such objection is made in open Commandery, verbally or by a formal communication thereto in writing, the E. Commander is not authorized to proceed and confer the orders upon the candidate. The Sir Knight making the objection can not be required to disclose his reasons therefor.

7. Every member of a Commandery, in good standing, has a right to know what transpires in his Commandery, but no member of a Commandery should disclose to any one not a member, any matter arising during the hours of a regular assembly; nor should any Sir Knight disclose anything transpiring in a Commandery to an absent member, which might be productive of discord and unkind feeling. It should be the constant care of all Knights Templar to promote harmony and concord, not only in their own Commanderies, but among all the members of the Order within the circle of their acquaintance.

8. An E. Commander can not resign his office during the term for which he is elected, after being duly installed.

9. To the question, "Can a Sir Knight be an active member and enjoy all the privileges and rights of two Commanderies at the same time, one of them being under dispensation?" I answered: He can not. When a Templar signs a petition for a dispensation to form a new Commandery, if the dispensation

be granted, his membership in his old Commandery remains in abeyance, and he is an active member of the new Commandery while under dispensation; and if the dispensation be followed by a charter to the new Commandery, he continues a member of that and ceases to be a member of the old one.

10. That whenever a Grand Commander removes from the jurisdiction of his Grand Commandery he thereby vacates his office, the powers of which devolve upon the Deputy and remaining officers, according to seniority. That as a permanent removal from the jurisdiction vacates the office of the Grand Commander, it follows, as a necessary consequence, that after such removal he cannot exercise the powers of the office.

11. That a Commandery under dispensation has the same exclusive jurisdiction within the territory which, in case a charter should be obtained, would belong to it, that would appertain to a chartered Commandery.

12. That in the absence of any provision in the by-laws of a Commandery to the contrary the petition of a Companion who is rejected may be presented at any regular meeting, subsequent to that at which the rejection occurs.

13. The ritual of the orders of Knighthood should not be written.

14. Upon applications for the orders of Knighthood, the vote must be by ballot. The ballot is secret, and has the same effect as a ballot in a Lodge of Master Masons.

15. Petitions for the orders of Knighthood can only be received and acted upon at regular conclaves of the Commandery.

16. To the question, "Can a Past Commander, who is an honorary member of a Commandery, open the same in the absence of the three principal officers (i. e., E. Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General), he being, at the time, an active member and also an officer of another Commandery?" I answered as follows: "He can not. The last clause of section 4 of article 3 of the Grand Constitution relates to Past E. Commanders who are members of the Commandery. Honorary membership does not confer the right to vote in any Commandery nor any rank or standing therein, but is merely complimentary."

These decisions were referred to the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, who endorsed them all with one exception, in which, and as we think very properly, they were sustained by the Grand Encampment. The committee say:

While we assent to the general propositions contained in the seventh decision, we can not ~~assent to that~~ portion of it which denies the right of a Knight, who may have been absent from a meeting of his Commandery, to know all the transactions at such meeting, whether affecting himself or not.

The Grand Master alludes in feeling terms to the death of Past Grand Masters Wm. Blackstone Hubbard and Archibald Bull, and Sir Knights Anthony O'Sullivan and Chas. A. Fuller, and pays a glowing eulogy to their memory. Appropriate resolutions were adopted and memorial tablets with suitable inscriptions are printed with the proceedings.

Before closing the Grand Master calls attention to the financial condition of the Grand Encampment, as its expenditures are in excess of its receipts, and the sources from which its revenue is derived are constantly diminishing by the territory in which it may lawfully establish subordinate Commanderies becoming more and more circumscribed. The committee, to whom the subject was referred, decided to submit no resolution on the subject, there being at the time sufficient funds in the treasury to meet all demands upon it; but at the same time suggest that the expenses of the Grand Body ought to be reduced, either by the discontinuance of payment of mileage and *per diem* of Grand Officers, or a resort to assessments upon State Grand Bodies which, in their opinion, ought to be avoided if possible.

The Deputy Grand Master, R. E. Sir William S. Gardner, submitted a long and very interesting report. It contains the ritual which he had prepared, at the request of Grand Commander Titus, of Massachusetts, for the consecration of the banners of St. Bernard Commandery, Boston, and he says:

The occasion was one of marked interest, and was witnessed by an intelligent and appreciative audience. The music, written especially for the occasion, was rendered by a choir of male voices. The Delta was decorated with beautiful flowers.

I am aware that no precedent for the singular service can be found among the doings of the Grand Officers of this body, and it is not reported to you for the purpose of obtaining a confirmation of the ritual. It is a part of my doings, and, *as such*, it becomes my duty to present it. Some portions of the ritual are from one prepared and used by your Grand Prelate, the Rev. and V. E. Dr. McMurdy.

While we consider the consecration service a beautiful and appropriate ceremony, and the ritual worthy of the accomplished scholar who prepared it, we should not be surprised to hear the ceremony denounced as an innovation and the ritual condemned as savoring of the Pope of Rome.

Sir Knight Gardner incorporates in his report the programme of the parade of Templars as an escort to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts at the dedication of the new Masonic Temple, Boston; and gives copies of a number of original papers in the handwriting of the late Sir Thomas Smith Webb, which throw much light upon the organization and early history of the Grand Encampment.

The business transacted was meagre in the extreme, and may be briefly summed up as follows: ten charters granted, one dispensation continued, and a petition for a new Commandery at Georgetown, D. C., referred to the M. E. Grand Master; permission granted Sir Alfred Creigh to publish, at his own expense and on his own responsibility, the decisions of Grand Master Hubbard and other Grand Masters; an attempt to modify the uniform voted down; the proposition, laid over from the previous triennial session, to change the name of the Grand Encampment to that of "Grand Conclave," laid on the table; Baltimore designated as the place for holding the next triennial session; thanks returned to the Grand Commandery of Missouri and the fraternity throughout its jurisdiction for the unbounded hospitalities extended to the Grand Encampment; and the election and installation of the following officers:

Sir William Sewall Gardner, Boston, M. E. Grand Master.  
 Sir John Q. A. Fellows, New Orleans, Deputy Grand Master.  
 Sir Kent Jarvis, Massillon, O., Grand Generalissimo.  
 Sir George W. Belt, Weston, Mo., Grand Captain General.  
 Sir John Frizzell, Nashville, Tenn., Grand Senior Warden.  
 Sir William C. Munger, Louisville, Ky., Grand Junior Warden.  
 Sir John W. Simons, New York, Grand Treasurer.  
 Sir John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati, Grand Recorder.  
 Sir Alfred Creigh, Washington, Pa., Grand Standard Bearer.  
 Sir William Barrett, Nashua, N. H., Grand Sword Bearer.  
 Sir Thomas W. Chandler, Atlanta, Ga., Grand Warden.

It is worthy of remark that the report of the Deputy Grand Master, when referring to the "Grand Encampment" of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, uses the nomenclature of Grand Commandery. We are not advised that that Grand Body has conformed to the requirements of the constitution of the Grand Encampment in this respect, but feel satisfied that if it has not, Grand

Master Gardner will exert his influence to accomplish the desired change, and doubt not that his efforts will be crowned with success.

We cannot close our notice of the seventeenth triennial session better than by quoting the words of one (Sir Knight Langridge, of Iowa,) who has never manifested any particular affection for the Grand Encampment. He says:

We rejoice to say that there was a most glorious and fraternal meeting of the representatives of all parts of our wonderful country. Maine and California, Minnesota and Louisiana, South Carolina and Massachusetts, Iowa and Virginia—among them, men who had worn the blue and the gray, and shared in fights, to which the old tournaments were mere child's play, all met as brethren, looked into each other's eyes, saw there the responsive glow that showed that the bond of Masonry, which is so incomprehensible to our anti-masonic friends, was as strong and as bright as it had been before, and all through the years of separation and sorrow—they joined hands again, and again in their hearts felt that neither time nor space, nor war, nor even death could separate those whom virtue has joined.

If such glorious results are realized from the re-unions at the triennial sessions, where is the true knight who would wish to see the Grand Encampment shorn of its fair proportions, or a single star dropped from its diadem?

**THE ENGLISH RITUAL.**—The question of the ritual was not brought up in the Grand Encampment, and as the subject had been fully discussed in the State Grand Bodies and by the Committees on Foreign Correspondence, it was just as well, for the general current of opinion sets against any change in the present system. The question may, therefore, be considered definitely settled; but, at the same time, we can see no objection to communicating such portions of the English ritual in our Commanderies as will enable American Templars to make themselves known and visit Commanderies in England. For the information of the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction, we give the following notice of the English system from the able report of R. E. Sir Henry C. Ranney, of Illinois:

The Grand Body is known as "The Royal, Exalted, Religious, and Military Order of Masonic Knights Templar in England and Wales," and meets at London annually. Its officers are a most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master; the Very High and Eminent Deputy Grand Master; a Grand Prior; Grand Sub-Prior; Grand Prelate; First and Second Grand Captains, commanding columns; Grand Chancellor and Keeper of Archives; Grand Vice Chancellor; Grand Registrar; Grand Treasurer; Grand Chamberlain; Grand Standard Bearer; Grand Hospitaller; Grand Experts; Grand Almoner; Grand Director of Ceremonies; First and Second Grand Aides-de-Camp; First and Second Grand Captains of the Lines; Grand Sword Bearer; First and Second Grand Heralds; Grand Organist; Grand Banner Bearer and Grand Equerry. The Grand Master is elected for the term of three years; he has authority to appoint Provincial Grand Commanders, and to grant warrants for the holding of Encampments in England and Wales, and its dependencies; all the officers are appointed by him, with the exception of the Grand Treasurer, who is elected annually.

Provincial Grand Commanderies shall be held once in every year.

Every Encampment shall consist of an Eminent Commander; a Prelate; two Captains, commanding columns; a Registrar; a Treasurer; an Almoner; an Expert; two Standard Bearers; one Captain of the Lines, and two Heralds, with other Knights, and one or two serving Companions or Equerries. Seven is a quorum for the purpose of installation of a Knight into the Order; five for other business. No person can be installed a Knight in any Encampment unless he shall be a Royal Arch Mason. The ballot is the rule; but it takes

three negative balls to reject. The Eminent Commander appoints all officers except the Treasurer.

The Clothing of a Knight Templar is a white kid skin apron, with a border of black silk watered ribbon, in the centre of the badge, a Red Cross patie; a Belt, having on the front the emblems of mortality in a triangle; a Sash or Baldric; a Sword; a Star of silver, with seven points, and a Passion Cross in a circle in the centre, with the motto, "*in hoc signo vinces*," around the circle; the Cloak or Mantle; Gantlets of black silk or satin.

We give the following extracts from "The Service of the Knights Templar":

#### EXHORTATION.

"Pilgrim, now a novice of our Order, the ceremonies in which you are now engaged are calculated deeply to impress your mind, and I trust, will have a long and happy effect upon your future character. You were first, as a trial of your faith and humility, enjoined to perform a seven year's pilgrimage. It represented the pilgrimage through which we are all passing. We are all weary pilgrims, looking forward to that Asylum, where we shall rest from our labors and be at rest for ever. You were then directed, as a trial of your courage and constancy, to perform seven years of warfare. It represented to you the constant warfare with the lying vanities and deceits of this world, in which it is necessary for us to be always engaged. You are now about to perform a year of penance, as a further trial of your humility; it is also a trial of that faith which will conduct you safely over the dark gulf of everlasting death, and land your enfranchised spirit in the peaceful abode of the Blessed. Let the emblems of life and death, which lie before you, remind you of the uncertainty of your earthly existence, and teach you to be prepared for the closing hour of your mortal career; and rest assured, that a firm faith in the truths revealed to us, will afford you consolation in the gloomy hours of dissolution, and insure ineffable and eternal happiness in the world to come."

At the Investiture, the following exhortations are read by the Prelate:

#### AT THE BUCKLING OF THE SPURS.

"Receive these Knightly Spurs, in memorial of the zeal and activity with which *thou art* henceforth to be goaded on in the performance of *thy* duties. And beware, lest on account of indolence or unfaithfulness, *thou* be deemed worthy of being ignominiously degraded from this noble Order."

#### AT THE INVESTITURE WITH THE SWORD.

"Receive this knightly Sword, and gird it upon *thy* strong thigh! Take it into *thine* hand, and wield it in God's faith and fear. Fight for the Church of God, and defend his faithful people! Repel the hosts of the wicked and profane, Infidels and Pagans, and defend the Faith of Christ, whose sworn Champion *thou art!*"

Exhortations are also made at the Investiture with the Surcoat, at the Investiture with the Baldric and Star, at the Delivery of the Shield, and at the Investiture of the Mantle.

The Knight being conducted to his stall, the Heralds make the following proclamation:

FIRST HERALD.—"Sir Knights of the Order of the Temple! Our worthy Brother and Companion, Sir Knight—— is this day installed a Knight of our Illustrious Order."

SECOND HERALD.—"Long life, honor and prosperity to our newly installed Knight Companion, Sir——, to our Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, the Grand Officers, and all other Knights of this Order."

The petition requires that the candidate should have "a firm and steadfast belief in the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, and being willing, at all times, to defend and maintain the Holy Christian Faith against all unprovoked attacks of its enemies."

We have not seen the English work, but the above is sufficient to show the differences between the English and American systems, and it is further



stated that the secret work shows how largely Webb and his associates have wandered from the old paths.

**IN CONCLUSION**—We rejoice to state that our Order is enjoying a degree of prosperity hitherto unknown. The Banner of the Cross now waves triumphantly over Territories where, only a few years ago, herds of buffalo roamed and the Indian held undisputed sway. State after State, with the exception of Massachusetts, have wheeled into line, and now that one of her most gifted sons wields the baton of the Grand Body, we feel confident that the Bay State will not long lag behind her sisters in conforming to the requirements of the constitution; while the harmony and good fellowship, which formed so distinguishing a feature of the Seventeenth Triennial Session, foreshadows a bright and glorious future for our institution.

We regret that the proceedings of California, Connecticut, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, Texas and Wisconsin have not been received, as it prevents us submitting a full report. So far as heard from, however, peace and prosperity prevail throughout our sister jurisdictions; the character of candidates is more closely scrutinized, greater attention is given to the inculcation of the sublime principles of our Order, and not a single discipline is reported.

The system of mutual representation, inaugurated by Pennsylvania, has been adopted by several of our sister Grand Commanderies. Any thing which is calculated to promote harmony and facilitate the interchange of fraternal courtesies between Masonic Grand Bodies, meets our cordial approbation—but the question has been raised, can State Grand Commanderies, with propriety, enter into this arrangement? Grand Lodges are sovereign and independent bodies, and, so far as they are concerned, the system of mutual representation corresponds to the practice of civilized nations appointing Ministers to friendly foreign powers. But State Grand Commanderies are the constituents of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and, as such, united together in one common bond of allegiance under the Supreme Head, just as much as the several States of the Union are bound together by the federal constitution under the General Government. Hence, it is urged that State Grand Commanderies can with no more propriety adopt the system of mutual representation, than the several States of the Union can appoint Ministers Plenipotentiary to each other, or subordinate lodges of any particular jurisdiction appoint representatives between themselves.

We present this view of the subject for the consideration of those Sir Knights who are "learned in the law." For our own part, we feel favorably disposed towards the movement. We do not see that mutual representation between States Grand Commanderies, can in any manner impair the dignity of the Grand Encampment. On the contrary, we believe that it will tend to increase the influence and usefulness of the Grand Body, by cementing more closely the fraternal ties which binds its constituents together.

The proposition to hold the annual conclave during October, has met with general favor, and several Grand Commanderies have changed their time of meeting to that month. We would like to see our Grand Body act in concert with her sisters in this as in all other matters, and therefore regret that the month selected is inopportune for this latitude. Sir Knights in the countr

parishes cannot conveniently visit the city at that season of the year, and although we have no Commanderies located out of the city at present, such will not always be the case. That a glorious future is reserved for our State we confidently believe, and, if faithful to the sacred trust reposed in us, our Order must share in the general prosperity. Subordinate Commanderies will then be established and flourish throughout our borders, and, in the hope that the time will soon come, this report is

Courteously submitted,

JAMES B. SCOT,  
M. A. CALONGNE.

The R. E. Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing Masonic year, E. Sirs James Stafford and T. A. Bartlette acting as tellers, with the following result:—

|                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SIR JOSEPH POTTS HORNOR.....  | R. E. Grand Commander.          |
| SIR JOHN A. STEVENSON .....   | V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.   |
| SIR WILLIAM R. WHITAKER ..... | E. Grand Generalissimo.         |
| SIR M. A. CALONGNE.....       | E. Grand Captain General.       |
| SIR HENRY RUFUS SWASEY.....   | E. Grand Prelate.               |
| SIR T. A. BARTLETTE.....      | E. Grand Senior Warden.         |
| SIR JAMES B. SCOT .....       | E. Grand Junior Warden.         |
| SIR EMANUEL BLESSEY.....      | E. Grand Treasurer.             |
| SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....      | E. Grand Recorder.              |
| SIR JAMES STAFFORD .....      | E. Grand Standard Bearer.       |
| SIR JOSEPH R. TURCK.....      | E. Grand Sword Bearer.          |
| SIR WILLIAM L. STANFORD.....  | E. Grand Warder.                |
| SIR STEPHEN S. SELLECK .....  | E. Grand Captain of the Guards. |

Sir John Q. A. Fellows, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, then proceeded to and did install the above named officers for the ensuing Masonic year in DUE and AMPLE form.

P. R. E. Grand Commander Sir Sam'l Manning Todd and R. E. Grand Commander Sir Joseph P. Hornor, respectively presented their credentials as Grand Representatives, the former of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania and the latter of the Grand Commandery of Missouri, near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, when

The following resolution was offered by Sir James B. Scot:

*Resolved*, That the credentials of Sir Knights Todd and Hornor be received, and, in appreciation of the fraternal spirit displayed and the knightly courtesy extended to this Grand Commandery by the Grand Commanderies of Penn-

sylvania and Missouri, that the R. Grand Commander be empowered to appoint representatives to both of these Grand Commanderies, and also to enter into mutual representation with such of our sister Grand Bodies as he may judge proper and expedient.

P. R. E. Grand Commander Sir J. Q. A. Fellows submitted the following substitute, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the credentials of Sir Knights Todd and Hornor be received, and that the knightly courtesy of this Grand Commandery be extended to the Grand Commanderies of Pennsylvania and Missouri for the fraternal spirit exhibited by them; but that the subject of the propriety of mutual representation between State Grand Commanderies—they being constituents of the Grand Encampment of the United States—be laid over to the next annual Conclave.

On motion of R. E. Sir Samuel M. Todd, it was

*Resolved*, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies; and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Commander for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect, and that fifty copies of the proceedings be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Correspondence.

*Resolved*, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

*Resolved*, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated to E. Sir Knight Grand Recorder, and ten dollars to E. Sir Knight Grand Captain of the Guards, for services rendered.

E. Sir Alfred E. Billings, P. G. Recorder, declined receiving remuneration for his services, and donated the amount appropriated to the Grand Commandery.

On motion of R. E. Sir Samuel M. Todd, the thanks of the Grand Commandery were returned to Sir Knight Billings for the able and efficient manner in which the Records of the Grand Commandery were kept by him.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following as the Committee on Correspondence:

Sir JAMES B. SCOT, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

Sir M. A. CALONGNE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

R. E. Sir Henry R. Swasey moved that the R. E. Grand Commander be empowered to assess the different Commanderies *pro rata*, for any deficiency in the funds now in the Treasury, to defray the expenses of this Grand Commandery, which was adopted.

On motion of Sir M. A. Calongne, a committee of three, consisting of Sir Knights Calongne, Whitaker and Craig, were appointed to draft suitable resolutions on the death of Sir Willis P. Coleman, and said committee subsequently presented the following report:—

ASYLUM OF R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, }  
 OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA,  
*Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans, Feb. 20th, A.D. 1869, A. O. 751.* }

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your committee appointed to prepare suitable resolutions upon the death of P. E. G. C. G., Willis P. Coleman, respectfully submit the following as their report:

WHEREAS, The Grand Master of the Universe has taken from us our beloved brother and companion, Past Eminent Grand Captain General, Willis Pierson Coleman, after a long life, full of good service to Masonry. And

WHEREAS, It is our duty to record, for perpetual remembrance, our grateful sense of the value of his Masonic labors, and the esteem he won from the Orders of Christian Knighthood in Louisiana. Therefore, be it

*Resolved* by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders of the State of Louisiana assembled in solemn conclave: That as a citizen our lamented companion earned the respect of his countrymen; as a Mason he proved himself, under all the circumstances of a long and active life, a good and true craftsman, always ready to undertake, with modesty and yet with fervency and zeal, every task, however laborious, which could advance the cause of the craft and benefit humanity; as a Christian Knight, constant and courageous, patient and persevering, he exhibited undaunted fortitude when assailing or resisting error, but was withal courteous and magnanimous, and ever ready to temper impartial justice with unrestrained charity.

*Be it further resolved*, That the memory of Eminent Sir Willis Pierson Coleman shall ever be cherished by his surviving companions, and shall be transmitted by them to their successors, as one of the precious possessions of the Grand Commandery to be by it, for all time, carefully guarded and preserved.

*Be it further Resolved*, That the family of our deceased companion have our earnest sympathy in their affliction, and that a copy of our proceedings, containing these resolutions, be transmitted to them.

M. A. CALONGNE,  
 WM. R. WHITAKER, } Committee.  
 E. D. CRAIG.

No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN AND KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next annual conclave, on Friday, February 18, A. D. 1870. A. O. 752.



JOSEPH P. HORNOR,

*Grand Commander.*

ATTEST:

GUS. SONTAG,  
*Grand Recorder.*

# SPECIAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

## Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

### AND APPENDANT ORDERS

#### OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

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A special conclave of the R. E. Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders of the State of Louisiana was holden in the Library Room, Grand Lodge Hall, on Friday evening, April 17th, A. D. 1868, A. O. 750, at 7 o'clock, the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR FULGENCE RICAU.....R. E. Grand Commander.
 " JOSEPH P. HORNOR.....V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.
 " JOHN A. STEVENSON.....E. Grand Generalissimo.
 " WILLIAM R. WHITAKER.....E. Grand Captain General.
 " HENRY R. SWASEY.....E. Grand Prelate.
 " WILLIAM McDUFF.....E. Grand Senior Warden.
 " F. W. DELESDERNIER.....as E. Grand Junior Warden.
 " EMANUEL BLESSEY.....E. Grand Treasurer.
 " ALFRED E. BILLINGS.....E. Grand Recorder.
 " JAMES B. SCOT.....E. Grand Standard Bearer.
 " WILLIAM L. STANFORD.....E. Grand Sword Bearer.
 " JOSEPH R. TURCK.....E. Grand Warder.
 " STEPHEN S. SELLECK.....E. Grand Captain of the Guard.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE FORM. Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS No. 1.
 JACQUES DE MOLAY No. 2.
 ORLEANS No. 3.

The E. G. Recorder then read the following communication from the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, F. and A. M.:

The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, Free and Accepted Masons: }
 GRAND MASTER'S OFFICE, }
 New Orleans, April 14th, 1868. }

The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, F. and A. M., having appointed the 24th of April next to consecrate the Masonic Cemetery, I have the honor to invite the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana to assist the M. W. Grand Lodge, and to participate in the ceremonies of the day, (and act as an escort, should it deem proper to do so,) and through it the various bodies under its jurisdiction.

Very respectfully and fraternally,

HY. R. SWASEY,
Grand Master.

Attest:



JAMES C. BATCHELOR, M. D.,
Grand Secretary.

The E. G. Recorder then read the following communication from the R. E. Grand Commander:

MR. ALFRED E. BILLINGS—

SIR:—I have received from the Grand W. M. of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, F. and A. M., an invitation to our Grand Commandery to assist in the Consecration of the Masonic Cemetery on the 24th of April, 1868.

In obedience to said invitation I would respectfully request you to present the same to each Commandery under our jurisdiction, and that each and all should act as an escort in the ceremonies of the day with all the solemnity and pomp our imposing and Sublime Orders of K. T. requires.

Very respectfully and fraternally,

F. RICAU,
R. E. G. Com. of K. T., State of La.

New Orleans, April 15th, 1868.

It was then, on motion duly seconded:

Resolved, That the invitation be accepted, and that the Eminent Commanders of each Commandery make arrangements to turn out as many Sir Knights as possible—mounted, and in full dress uniform.

The R. E. Grand Commander, at the request of the Grand Commandery, then appointed V. E. Sir Joseph P. Hornor, Executive Officer, with instructions to make all necessary arrangements to enforce the above resolution. The Grand Commandery was then called to rest till Friday next, at 8 o'clock, A. M.

ALFRED E. BILLINGS,
Grand Recorder.

After the adjournment of the Special Conclave of the Grand Commandery, the Executive Officer issued the following orders:

GENERAL ORDERS.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF LOUISIANA:

I. The officers and members of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, and those Sir Knights intending to participate in the ceremonies of the Consecration of the Grand Lodge Masonic Cemetery, are hereby ordered to meet at the Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, at 8 o'clock A. M., on Friday, April 24, 1868, punctually.

II. The lines will be formed on St. Charles street, the right resting on Poydras, at half-past 8 o'clock, and at 9 o'clock the lines will be opened for the reception of the Grand Lodge. After the passage of the Grand Lodge through the lines, the Grand Commandery will pass to the head of the procession, and assume its escort duty, and will march by fours and in two divisions; the Grand Standard of the Order will be born in the rear of the Grand Commander and at the head of the first division, and the Beauseant at the head of the second division. On arrival at the Cemetery the Sir Knights will dismount and form avenue for the reception of the Grand Lodge.

III. No Sir Knight will be permitted to appear in the procession as a Knight Templar except he be mounted and in the full costume prescribed by the regulations of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

IV. Sir George Baldy, Acting Senior Grand Warden, and Sir T. A. Bartlette, Junior Grand Warden, will act as Assistants to the Executive Officer in forming the lines, and will lead their respective divisions while on the march.

V. Commanders of subordinate Commanderies will see that their members are promptly upon the ground, and will join the staff of the Grand Commander.

† JOSEPH P. HORNOR,

Deputy Grand Commander and Executive Officer.

Official:

ALFRED E. BILLINGS,

E. Grand Recorder.

OFFICE OF GRAND RECORDER,
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of La., }
New Orleans, April 20, 1868.

SIR GEO. BALDY,

Junior Warden Orleans Commandery No. 3.

You are hereby assigned to duty as Grand Senior Warden of the R. E. Grand Commandery of K. T. of the State of Louisiana, until after the Consecration Ceremonies, on Friday, 24th instant.

By order of

JOSEPH P. HORNOR,
V. E. D. G. Com'r and Exec. Officer.

ALFRED E. BILLINGS,
Grand Recorder.

SIR WM. C. DRIVER,

E. C. Orleans Commandery No. 3.

Eminent Sir—You are hereby assigned to duty as V. E. D. Grand Commander of the R. E. Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, until after the Consecration Ceremonies, Friday, April 24th inst.

By order of

JOSEPH P. HORNOR,

V. E. D. G. Com'r and Exec. Officer.

ALFRED E. BILLINGS,

Grand Recorder.

Pursuant to adjournment, on Friday, 24th April, 1868, A. O. 750, the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana met in Special Conclave, at its Asylum in Grand Lodge Hall, at 8 o'clock, A. M., there being present:

SIR FULGENCE RICAU.....R. E. Grand Commander.
 " WILLIAM C. DRIVER.....as V. E. Grand Commander.
 " JOHN A. STEVENSON.....E. Grand Generalissimo.
 " WILLIAM R. WHITAKER.....E. Grand Captain General.
 " HENRY R. SWASEY.....E. Grand Prelate.
 " GEORGE BALDY.....as E. Grand Senior Warden.
 " THERON A. BARTLETTE.....E. Grand Junior Warden.
 " EMANUEL BLESSEY.....E. Grand Treasurer.
 " ALFRED E. BILLINGS.....E. Grand Recorder.
 " JAMES E. McBETH.....as E. Grand Standard Bearer.
 " JAMES STAFFORD.....E. Grand Sword Bearer.
 " JOSEPH R. TURCK.....E. Grand Warder.
 " STEPHEN S. SELLECK.....E. Grand Captain of the Guards,
 and sixty-five Sir Knights.

The object of the Conclave having been stated by the Grand Commander, the minutes of the Special Conclave of 17th April, 1868, A. O. 750, were read and approved; whereupon, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, V. E. Deputy Grand Commander and Executive Officer, assumed the command, and the lines were formed, and the Grand Commandery proceeded to discharge its duty as a mounted escort to the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, in the ceremonies of the consecration of the Grand Lodge Masonic Cemetery, and the laying of the foundation stone of the tomb of the Louisiana Relief Lodge No. 1; after which, together with the brethren assembled, the Sir Knights attended to the address by Bro. John

Q. A. Fellows, P. R. E. Grand Commander, the Orator of the Day; after which the M. W. Grand Lodge was escorted back to its Hall.

The Grand Commandery then resumed its march, and proceeded to the residence of Past R. E. Grand Commander Fellows, in Jefferson City, and there paid its respects to him in his double capacity of Past Grand Commander and R. E. Grand Generalissimo of the United States, and were received by him with all knightly courtesy and kindness. The ranks being then broken, the Sir Knights participated in a bountiful collation prepared by the good wife of Sir Knight Fellows, assisted by the lady friends of many of those present; and after an hour or two of social intercourse, the lines were again formed, the parting honors duly paid to the host and hostess, and the Grand Commandery returned to its Asylum.

Before dismissing the Sir Knights, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, V. E. Deputy Grand Commander and Executive Officer, returned the thanks of the Grand Commandery to his subordinate officers, Sir Geo. Baldy and Sir Theron A. Bartlette, S. and J. Grand Wardens, for the very faithful manner in which his orders had been carried out, and to Sir James E. McBeth, acting Grand Standard Bearer, and Sir E. L. Dickey, Bearer of the Beauseant, both volunteers on this occasion, and congratulated the Sir Knights on their appearance and the excellence of their conduct and drill.

After which the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana was closed in due and ample form.



ALFRED E. BILLINGS,
Grand Recorder

SPECIAL CONCLAVE
OF THE
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar
AND APPENDANT ORDERS
OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

The R. E. Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders, of the State of Louisiana, assembled in special conclave, at its sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, city of New Orleans, on Wednesday, May 5th, A. D. 1869, A. O. 751, at 7 o'clock P. M., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR R. E. Grand Commander.
 " JOHN A. STEVENSON V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.
 " RICHARD LAMBERT as E. Grand Generalissimo.
 " M. A. CALONGNE E. Grand Captain General.
 " HENRY R. SWASEY E. Grand Prelate.
 " THOMAS CRIPPS as E. Grand Senior Warden.
 " JAMES B. SCOT E. Grand Junior Warden.
 " EMANUEL BLESSEY E. Grand Treasurer.
 " GUSTAVUS SONTAG E. Grand Recorder.
 " J. STAFFORD E. Grand Standard Bearer.
 " JOSEPH R. TURCK E. Grand Sword Bearer.
 " W. L. STANFORD E. Grand Warder.
 " STEPHEN S. SELLECK E. Grand Captain of the Guards.
 Also, SIR SAMUEL M. TODD P. R. E. Grand Commander.
 " FULGENCE RICAU " "

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS No. 1.
JACQUES DE MOLAY No. 2,
ORLEANS No. 3,

The R. E. Grand Commander delivered the following address:

SIR KNIGHTS:

At the last Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, a resolution was introduced, receiving the representatives appointed near this Grand Commandery from the Grand Commanderies of Pennsylvania and Missouri, whose credentials had been presented, and authorizing the appointment of representatives near those bodies, and also to enter into mutual representation with other of our sister Grand Commanderies. The propriety of such action on our part, being at the time doubted by our R. E. Sir Knight John Q. A. Fellows, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, a substitute resolution submitted by that Frater, was adopted, laying the whole subject over until our next Grand Conclave. Since that time, however, Sir Knight Fellows has reconsidered his views then entertained, and has become convinced of the propriety of the adoption of the original resolution, and he has lately addressed me a communication to that effect, which is hereto appended, requesting me to convene this special conclave for the purpose of finally disposing of this subject in a manner which will place us right upon the record so far as courtesy towards our sister Grand Commanderies is concerned. This call has also been signed by all the presiding officers of our subordinate Commanderies, and by most of the Past Grand Commanders and principal Grand officers of this Grand Commandery; under such circumstances, I have called this special conclave, and have caused every delegate and officer to be notified thereof by our Grand Recorder.

In this connection, I have also to lay before you the credentials of Sir James C. Batchelor as Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee, received since our last Grand Conclave, and bespeak for one so well known to us, a knightly greeting.

The resolution upon which you are now called to act, meets my hearty approbation, and I trust that it may be adopted at once, that it may be printed with our late proceedings, and thus go forth with them to the Masonic world.

Courteously submitted,

JOSEPH P. HONOR,
Grand Commander.

The following communication from R. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the U. S., was then read:

NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 26TH, 1869.

JOSEPH P. HONOR, Esq.,

R. E. Grand Commander:

R. E. Sir and Brother:—At the late Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana, a resolution, proposed by the Committee on Correspondence, adopting the system of Representatives with the several Grand Commanderies, was, on the suggestion from me that it might be in conflict with the constitution of the Grand Encampment, laid over to the next Grand Conclave. Having given the subject further consideration, since the close of the Grand Commandery, I find what appeared to me as probably ob-

jectionable, to be in no way in conflict with the interests or the constitution of the Grand Encampment, but on the contrary I can conceive how such a system might be highly beneficial to the best interest of the Order.

I would, therefore, recommend, and as a member of the Grand Commandery, request that a special conclave be called at as early a day as convenient, to take into consideration and act upon the resolution reported by the Committee on Correspondence.

In all knightly courtesy,

I am, most truly,

Your obedient servant,

J. Q. A. FELLOWS,

Dep. Grand Master, Gr. Encamp. U. S.

We join in the above request:

SAMUEL M. TODD, *P. G. Com. G. Com. La.*

HY. R. SWASEY, *P. R. E. G. Com.*

JOHN A. STEVENSON, *Dep. Gr. Com. of La.*

RICHARD LAMBERT, *E. C. Ind. Fr. No. 1.*

WM. R. WHITAKER, *E. C. and G. G'mo.*

The following extract of the minutes of the Annual Conclave, February 12th, was then read:

The following resolution was offered by Sir James B. Scot:

Resolved, That the credentials of Sir Knights Todd and Hornor be received; and, in appreciation of the fraternal spirit displayed, and the knightly courtesy extended to this Grand Commandery by the Grand Commanderies of Pennsylvania and Missouri, that the R. E. Grand Commander be empowered to appoint representatives to both of these Grand Commanderies, and also to enter into mutual representation with such of our sister Grand Bodies as he may judge proper and expedient.

P. R. E. Grand Commander, Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, submitted the following substitute, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the credentials of Sir Knights Todd and Hornor be received, and that the knightly courtesy of this Grand Commandery be extended to the Grand Commanderies of Pennsylvania and Missouri for the fraternal spirit exhibited by them; but that the subject of the propriety of mutual representation between State Grand Commanderies—they being constituents of the Grand Encampment of the United States—be laid over to the next annual conclave.

Sir Samuel M. Todd moved that the substitute offered by Sir John Q. A. Fellows be reconsidered, which was carried unanimously.

Sir James B. Scot moved that the original resolution offered by him at the last annual conclave be adopted, which was carried unanimously.

Sir Knights Samuel M. Todd and James C. Batchelor presented their credentials, the former as Grand Representative of New York, and the latter of Tennessee, which were received and read.

On motion of Sir James B. Scot, the representatives of Pennsylvania, Missouri, New York and Tennessee, were then ordered to be formally received.

The R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, then vacated his station, and V. E. Deputy Grand Commander, Sir John A. Stevenson, assumed the same.

Past R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Henry R. Swasey, then formally introduced to the Grand Commandery Sir Samuel M. Todd, the Grand Representative of the Grand Commanderies of Pennsylvania and New York, who was received and welcomed as such by the acting Grand Commander, as follows:

RIGHT EMINENT SIR KNIGHT TODD:

In the performance of my duty as acting Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana, it affords me great pleasure to receive and welcome you as the Representative of the Grand Commanderies of Pennsylvania and New York, near this Grand Body.

In receiving you, Sir Knight, permit me to remark that I am fully satisfied that this Grand Commandery has, in adopting the system of representation, acted wisely and well.

It will be the means of strengthening the bonds of Templar Masonry, and by leading to us more extended knightly intercourse, be productive of good results to the Grand Encampment of the United States by enhancing its usefulness and securing its prosperity.

The Grand Commanderies whose representative you now are in this Grand Commandery, have in you an able and worthy champion in the cause of Templar Masonry, one who will reflect honor and lustre on their Grand Bodies.

You, Right Eminent Sir, are also honored in your appointment; but the honor is not yours alone; every Sir Knight in this jurisdiction feels that he has been honored by the selection of you, whom we all love and esteem.

Again, Right Eminent Sir, I give you a knightly and courteous welcome to the Asylum of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana as the representative of the Grand Commanderies of Pennsylvania and New York.

To which Right Eminent Sir Samuel M. Todd, Grand Representative of the Grand Commanderies of New York and Pennsylvania, replied as follows:

RIGHT EMINENT:

In behalf of the bodies which I represent on this occasion, permit me to make due acknowledgment for the courteous and knightly reception which the Grand Commandery of Louisiana has extended to me as

the accredited representative of the Knights Templar of the States of Pennsylvania and New York.

Although I had never anticipated having the great honor of representing at this East the Sir Knights of the two largest and most powerful States in our Union, yet, I must confess that it was with much pride and satisfaction that I accepted the appointment and promised to do my devoir in upholding and perpetuating the sacred principles of our Order, and in preserving its unity as far as lay in my power.

I am more than pleased that the Grand Commandery of Louisiana has adopted the system of Mutual Representation, a system which I believe will tend to the drawing more closely the bonds of union which unite our great brotherhood—engaged as we all are, as Christian Knights, in the noble and glorious work of upholding and defending the same holy cause, fighting under the same banner and mutually arrayed against vice, error and superstition, in whatever form it appears.

In the name, then, of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, the first governing body of Knights Templar established on this continent, and in the name of the Grand Commandery of New York, which, more than half a century ago, stood sponsor to the first body of Knights Templar organized in Louisiana, I proffer the alliance and support, for all good works, of these two powerful organizations.

Past R. E. Grand Commander Sir Henry R. Swasey then formally introduced to the Grand Commandery, Sir James C. Batchelor, the Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee, who was received and welcomed as such by the acting Grand Commander, as follows:

SIR KNIGHT BATCHELOR:

Your credentials as Representative of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee, having been presented to this Grand Commandery, I give you a kind and courteous welcome to our Asylum.

In receiving you permit me to add, that I am satisfied the interest of the Grand Body you represent will be well guarded, and their feelings kindly and courteously expressed, whenever occasion may arise for mutual intercourse.

You will please be seated on our right, as the Representative of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee.

Whereupon, Sir James C. Batchelor, Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee, answered as follows:

RIGHT EM. GR. COMMANDER AND SIR KNIGHTS

of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Permit me to express my high appreciation of the courteous manner in which you have been pleased to welcome me, as the Representative of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Tennessee.

Holding no personal claims upon the Sir Knights of that Grand Body, this appointment is a compliment as unexpected as it is gratifying. Could I, Right

Eminent Sir, be so fortunate as to in any way aid or assist in the exchange of knightly courtesies between the Grand Bodies of Louisiana and Tennessee, then, indeed, will I have the opportunity of proving to the Grand Commandery of Tennessee my willingness, at least, (however much I may fail in ability,) to exercise the function bestowed, as the Representative of the Grand Body so well known in the Templar world of the United States.

Permit me, Right Eminent Sir, on the part of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee, to tender you my regards, and thank you for the courtesy extended.

Past R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Hy. R. Swasey, then formally introduced to the Grand Commandery, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, the Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Missouri, who was received and welcomed as such, by the acting Grand Commander, as follows:

RIGHT EMINENT SIR KNIGHT HORNOR:

It is with no ordinary feeling of gratification that I receive and welcome you in this Grand Commandery as the duly accredited representative of the Grand Commandery of the State of Missouri.

Your well-known zeal and ability as evinced in your past Masonic career, furnishes ample assurance of the manner in which you will discharge your duties towards the Grand Commandery which has honored you with its confidence.

Right Eminent Sir: It having been my good fortune to introduce you personally to many of the Sir Knights of Missouri—a State which for many years was my home, and where I received my first Masonic teachings—I feel truly gratified in thus having the honor of receiving you as the Representative of the Grand Commandery of the State of Missouri, and extend to you, and through you to them, a knightly welcome.

To which, Right Eminent Sir Joseph P. Hornor, Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of the State of Missouri, responded as follows:

RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER:

The great States of Louisiana and Missouri are united by a broad and powerful tie, which nothing can ever break or destroy, and as long as the swift-rolling Mississippi exists, their citizens will have a common interest in each other's prosperity. It is eminently fitting, therefore, that the Grand governing bodies of the Order of Knights Templar in these two sovereign States should be more closely united, if that be possible, than by the ordinary bands which are universally recognized by their members; and as tending to promote that end it is a matter of congratulation to all that the much desired consummation of a system of mutual representation has this evening taken place. In having been selected for this highly honorable station, in which you now recognize me, it is not strange that I should feel proud of my position, and have every incentive to fill it worthily; and having but recently returned from an official visit to our sister city of St. Louis, and having been there re-

ceived, with others, in a most cordial, fraternal and warm-hearted manner, the fame of which has rung throughout the length and breadth of the land, I am well qualified to assure you of the good wishes for your prosperity and welfare entertained by your fraters of Missouri, and of their earnest desire to co-operate with you in all your undertakings for the good of the Order; and in their name, I return you hearty thanks for the kind welcome you have bestowed upon their representative.

The R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, resumed his station.

Sir Samuel M. Todd called the attention of the Grand Commandery to the courteous invitation of St. John Commandery, of Philadelphia, extended to the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction, to assist at the celebration of the 50th anniversary of said Commandery, on the 15th of June next.

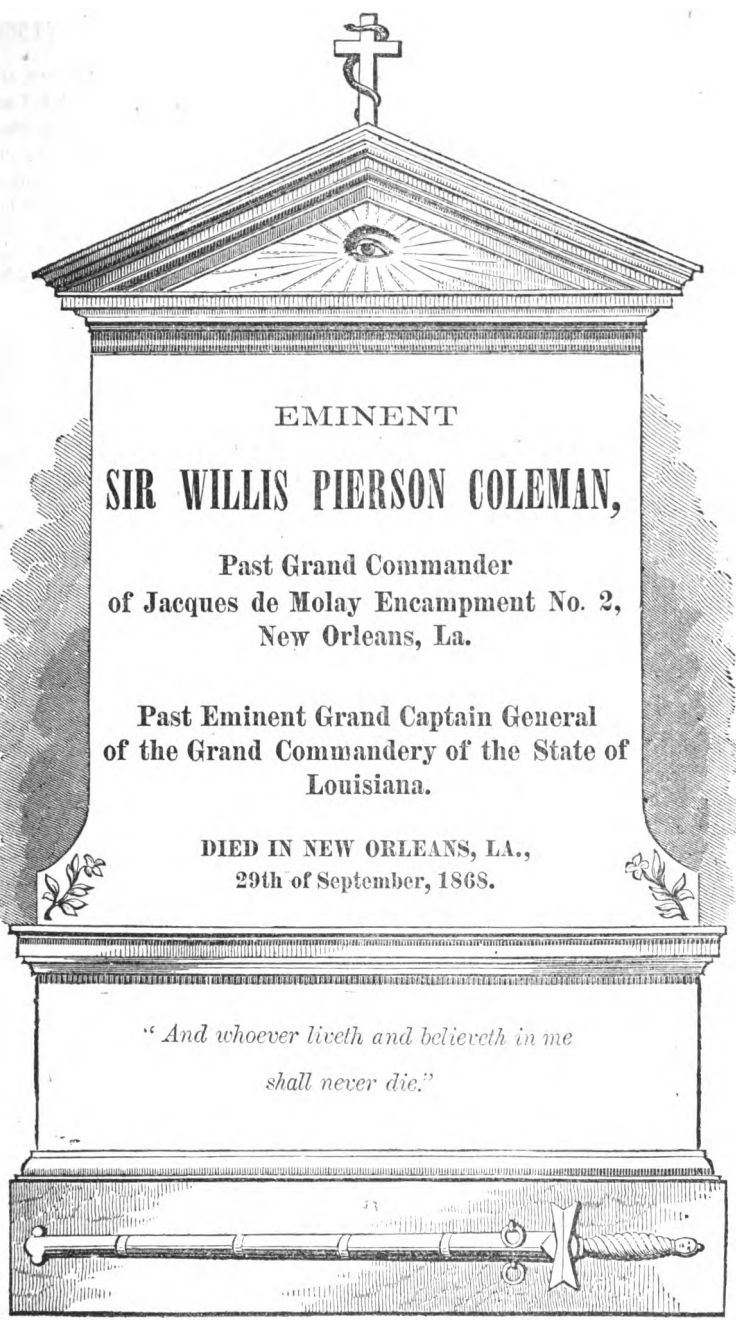
No further business appearing, the Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM, until the next Annual Conclave, February 18th, A. D. 1870, A. O. 752.



JOSEPH P. HORNOR,
Grand Commander.

ATTEST:

GUS. SONTAG,
Grand Recorder.



EMINENT

SIR WILLIS PIERSON COLEMAN,

Past Grand Commander
of Jacques de Molay Encampment No. 2,
New Orleans, La.

Past Eminent Grand Captain General
of the Grand Commandery of the State of
Louisiana.

DIED IN NEW ORLEANS, LA.,
29th of September, 1868.

*"And whoever liveth and believeth in me
shall never die."*

ANNUAL

Returns of Subordinate Commanderies,

FOR THE YEAR 1868.

ENROLLED UNDER THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, SEPTEMBER 10TH, A. D. 1844.

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Original Charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York, May 4th, A. D. 1816,
A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th.
A. D. 1844.

OFFICERS FOR THE PRESENT YEAR.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sir Richard Lambert.....E. C. | Sir John Rooney.....Treasurer. |
| " Hugh Breen.....G. | " M. A. Calongne.....Recorder. |
| " Felix Rice.....C. G. | " Angel Martin.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " John G. Fleming.....Prelate. | " J. W. Maguire.....Sword Bearer. |
| " E. J. Barksdale....Sen. Warden. | " Isaac T. Hinton.....Warder. |
| " Thomas Sheehan..Jun. Warden. | " J. L. Daussat.....Sentinel. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Fulgence Rican, P. G. C. | M. A. Calongne, | F. W. Delesdernier, |
| T. A. Bartlette, | James Stafford. | |

MEMBERS.

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Allabaugh, J. R. | Durrive, Jules | Lafon, René |
| Aubert, L. C. | Dias, J. A. | McCulloch, Wm. |
| Barrow, R. H. | DeLucas, Bruno | McDuff, Wm. |
| Beney, L. | Diamond, R. E. | Melloch, E. |
| Broué, J. B. | Day, J. M. | Nelson, J. M. |
| Broas, Smith | Duncan, J. E. | Ochiglevich, J. |
| Burden, Thomas | Davis, Warren | O'Dowd, J. |
| Baker, John | Evans, R. J. | Olle, J. |
| Brown, A. | Ellsworth, O. | Philson, J. |
| Bean, Phil. | Ferrier, A. | Peale, J. A. |
| Beebe, O. H. | Fisse, Jean | Panzer, S. H. |

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Buchanan, H | Furneaux, Jas | Riverra, P. Nap. |
| Carter, J. H. | Ferranti, Theop. | Soulé, George |
| Cox, William | Goetz, C. | Scott, John K. |
| Cage, D. S. | Garret, A. G. | Starr, William |
| Constantini, Honorary | Harvey, J. H. | Skardon, A. W. |
| Costa, Antonio | Hatch, F. H. | Stewart, David |
| Campbell, A. | Henningsen, J. C. | Timberlake, John |
| Clark, John | Heron, A. C. | Tucker, A. L. |
| Clark, Geo. H. | Hillman, A. | Thomas, Charles |
| Cain, L. P. | Herwig, J. L. | Viosca, J. Sr. |
| Carraher, Pat. | Hart, L. | Wood, J. C. |
| Chandler, J. Benj. | Herwig, P. F. | Williams, Peter |
| Czarnowski, Oscar | Ivens, E. M. | Woolverton, N. W. |
| Crawford, J. D. | Kells, Charles E. | White, Jona C. |
| Donella, O. J. | Kelleit, John | Wells, W. H. |
| Dodge, L. W. | Knapp, F. H. | Young, John Jr. |
| Dodge, L. J. | Long, D. A. | Zeigler, Joseph |
| Durand, N. | | Total.....102. |

ORDERS CONFERRED.—J. L. Herwig, L. Hart, John Young jr., James Furneaux, Jona C. White, Phil. Bean, John Timberlake, Ambrose W. Skardon, E. Melloch, J. Olle, David Stewart, J. A. Peel, J. H. Carter, W. H. Wells, P. F. Herwig.

AFFILIATED.—E. J. Barksdale, Wm. Cox, N. W. Woolverton, S. H. Panzer.

DIED.—O. J. Noyes, H. A. Scheurmann, James Davis.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 25th, A. D. 1851, A. O. 733.

OFFICERS FOR 1869.

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Sir Samuel Manning Todd.....E. C. | Sir Emanuel Blessey.....Treasurer. |
| " John Alexander Stevenson....G. | " Gustavus Sontag.....Recorder. |
| " Joseph R. Turck .....C. G. | " H. Hamburger.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " James B. Scot.....Prelate. | " F. Holyland.....Sword Bearer. |
| " E. A. Yorke. ....Sen. Warden. | " Z. M. Pike.....Warder. |
| " L. T. Murdock....Jun. Warden. | " R. S. Burk (not a member)..Sent. |
| Sirs T. F. Patton, J. Santini and G. W. Race..... | Guards. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| W. W. Johnson, | John B. Robertson, | Henry R. Swasey, p. g. c., |
| | Samuel M. Todd, p. g. c. | |

MEMBERS.

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Addison, Ashrood | Fuller, Charles A. | Manning, W. H. |
| Amesbury, J. O. | Foote, Alexis Smith | Macon, Thomas L. |
| Berwick, Nathan | Fitzgerald, W. E. | Newton, C. W. |
| Bockius, Jacob M. | Gale, James | Pike, Wm. S. |
| Bell, Wm. Robert | Gordy, John C. | Perkins, William M. |
| Batchelor, James C. | Glennon, Robert | Rhinehart, B. F. |
| Bothick, Thos. W. | Hasam, Thomas | Ramelli, D. S. |
| Bevan, John | Hawkins, John | Selleck, S. S. |
| Barnett, Edward | Jones, John W. | Smith, John C. |
| Betterton, W. G. | King, George Howard | Scruggs, D. E. |
| Beattie, Wm | Lane, Lafayette N. | Schilling, H. T. |
| Bennett, Philip | Long, H. W. | Selby, George |
| Bruce, R. L. | Logan, Joseph G. | Tighe, Dan E. |
| Buckner, Simon Bolivar | Lunn, Thomas | Van Horn, Thaddeus D. |
| Carter, Albert G. | McNeil, Alexander | Whann, Wm. Jr. |
| Clarke, Joseph D. | Monroe, John T. | Winslow, Moses |
| Craig, Emmet D. | Mitchell, D. F. | Weber, Wm. |
| Cheeseborough, Jas. B. | Murray, Thomas | Wang, Fred. |
| Chase, C. H. | McGuffy, H. | Ward, John |
| Carroll, Timothy | McClure, John Elliott | Webster, L. J. |
| Darden, R. G. | Mason, Wm. J. | Wynne, C. E. |
| Dunn, James B. | Maybin, Wm. | Wilner, J. C. |
| Douglass, James A. | Mandel, Peter C. | Williams, Hugh |
| DeGrange, Joseph H. | McWilliams, John G. | Total.....88. |

ORDERS CONFERRED.—James Gale, W. H. Manning, Geo. Selby, L. T. Muddock, T. F. Patton, Hugh Williams.

DIED.—W. A. Chambers, C. H. Churchill, John Galpin, Joseph Pearce, H. Regenberg, W. L. Williams.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, Sept. 4th, A. D. 1862. A. O. 744.

OFFICERS FOR 1869.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sir Wm. R. Whitaker.....E. C. | Sir Simon F. Monroe....Treasurer. |
| " James E. McBeth.....G. | " Alfred E. Billings....Recorder. |
| " George Baldy.....C. G. | " E. L. Dickey.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " Joseph P. Hornor.....Prelate. | " A. Parle.....Sword Bearer. |
| " J. H. Clarke.....Sen. Warden. | " W. G. James.....Warder. |
| " W. L. Stanford..Junior Warden. | " Raymond S. Burk.....Sentinel. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

J. Q. A. Fellows, P. G. C., Jos. P. Hornor, G. C., Thos. Cripps, W. C. Driver.

MEMBERS.

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Andrews, E. P. | Estlin, Charles T. | Pilcher, Mason |
| AtLee, Wm. York | Fromeyer, W. H. | Pierce, H. D. |
| Baldwin, Albert | Friend, Thomas | Read, Robert H. |
| Blake, George A. | Gardner, L. H. | Rusha, E. M. |
| Bullitt, Cuthbert | Gilman, S. H. | Robinson, N. T. N. |
| Benedict, William S. | Girard, M. E. | Rice, Charles S. |
| Burbank, Nat. | Hays, H. T. | Reid, Edw. |
| Bovard, Robert D. | Hall, G. Alfred | Shaw, Alfred |
| Chamberlain, George | Hildreth, D. M. | Seymour, Samuel J. |
| Crawford, Levi S. | Hunt, C. S. | Sizer, George W. |
| Campbell, Benjamin | Johnson, W. A. | Tomlin, W. S. |
| Carroll, R. W. W. | Leacock, W. T. | Tisdale, Eugene |
| Collins, John F. | Levins, Christopher | Walsh, P. P. |
| Cooper, William | McGinnis, J. J. | Watson, Robert |
| Doane, Harmon | Miller, Nick | Woods, Michael |
| Dunlap, J. G. | Nash, Charles T. | Total.....62. |

ORDERS CONFERRED—W. S. Benedict, R. D. Bovard, Chas. T. Nash, Edward Reid, W. L. Stanford, N. Burbank, G. Chamberlain, L. S. Crawford, Wm. G. James, N. Miller, Andrew Parle, Eug. Tisdale, Chas. S. Rice, Edward S. Dickey.

DIED—R. W. Stanley, W. P. Coleman.

Officers of Grand Commandery.

SIR JOSEPH POTTS HORNOR.....R. E. Grand Commander.
SIR JOHN A. STEVENSONV. E. Deputy Grand Commander.
SIR WILLIAM R. WHITAKER.....E. Grand Generalissimo.
SIR M. A. CALONGNE.....E. Grand Captain General.
SIR HENRY BUFUS SWASEY.....E. Grand Prelate.
SIR T. A. BARTLETTE.....E. Grand Senior Warden.
SIR JAMES B. SCOT.....E. Grand Junior Warden.
SIR EMANUEL BLESSEY.....E. Grand Treasurer.
SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....E. Grand Recorder.
SIR JAMES STAFFORD.....E. Grand Standard Bearer.
SIR JOSEPH R. TURCK.....E. Grand Sword Bearer.
SIR WILLIAM L. STANFORD.....E. Grand Warder.
SIR STEPHEN S. SELLECK.....E. Grand Captain of the Guards.

ANNUAL GRAND CONCLAVE OF 1870.

The next Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, will be held in Grand Lodge, Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Friday, February 18th, A. D. 1870, A. O. 752.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

SIRS JAMES B. SCOT AND M. A. CALONGNE.

To Grand Recorders.

I respectfully request the Grand Recorders of the various Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar, to transmit to me, by separate mails, duplicate copies of their Proceedings, and the favor shall be reciprocated with due courtesy.

G. SONTAG,

GRAND RECORDER.

Lock Box 321, Post Office, New Orleans, La.

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.



Grand Commandery

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Louisiana

1870.

Free masons, Louisiana, Knights Templars,
Grand Commandery,

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND COMMANDERY

OF

Knights Templar

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS,

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA,

AT ITS

SEVENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE,

NEW ORLEANS,

February 18th, 1870, A. O. 752.

SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR, - - - - R. E. GRAND COMMANDER,

SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG, - - - - E. GRAND RECORDER.



NEW ORLEANS:

CLARK'S LITHOGRAPH, BOOK AND JOB PRINT, 106 GRAVIER STREET,

1870.

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1870

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SEVENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA.

THE R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT
ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at its Sacred Asylum,
Grand Lodge Hall, city of New Orleans, on Friday, February 18th,
A. D. 1870, A. O. 752, at 12 o'clock M., the following—

OFFICERS PRESENT.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR..... | R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. |
| “ JOHN A. STEVENSON..... | V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER. |
| “ WILLIAM R. WHITAKER..... | E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO. |
| “ HENRY R. SWASEY..... | E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. |
| “ M. A. CALONGNE..... | E. GRAND PRELATE. |
| “ T. A. BARTLETTE..... | E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN. |
| “ JAMES B. SCOT..... | E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN. |
| “ JAMES TODD..... | as E. GRAND TREASURER. |
| “ GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
| “ JAMES B. SCOT..... | E. GRAND STANDARD BEARER. |
| “ JAMES STAFFORD..... | E. GRAND SWORD BEARER. |
| “ RUFUS L. BRUCE..... | as E. GRAND WARDEN. |
| “ RAYMOND S. BURK..... | as E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS. |
| Also, SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS..... | P. R. E. G. COMMANDER. |
| “ SAMUEL MANNING TODD..... | P. R. E. G. COMMANDER. |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| SIR SAMUEL M. TODD..... | Pennsylvania and New York. |
| “ JOSEPH P. HORNOR..... | Missouri. |
| JAMES C. BATCHELOR..... | Tennessee. |

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns :

SIR T. A. BARTLETTE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

“ G. SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

“ JOHN H. CLARK, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns then submitted the following Report, which was read and adopted :

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Louisiana :

Your Committee on Credentials and Returns beg leave to report the following Commanderies entitled to representation, and the following Sir Knights entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery, as legal representatives:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Sir Hugh Breen, E. C.; John Kellett, Proxy; John G. Fleming, G.; Richard Lambert, Proxy; John A. Peel, C. G.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Sir James B. Scot, E. C.; Z. M. Pike, Proxy; Daniel E. Scruggs, G.; Rufus L. Bruce, C. G.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Sir James E. McBeth, E. C.; John H. Clark, G.; W. L. Stanford, C. G.

Courteously submitted,

T. A. BARTLETTE,
G. SONTAG,
JOHN H. CLARK.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS No. 1. JACQUES DEMOLAY No. 2. ORLEANS No. 3.

The R. E. Grand Commander then delivered the following—

ADDRESS:

SIR KNIGHTS:

During the past year our banners have been advanced in a satisfactory degree, as you will be fully informed by the reports of our Grand Recorder and the returns in his hands, but I am denied the satisfaction of making to you the long-wished for announcement that one or more new Commanderies have been established in our country parishes; every facility has been afforded, however, to companions from the interior to take the Orders while on short visits to the city, and this course, pursued for a little longer, will soon have the desired result.

My official acts have necessarily been few, and we are so closely united, even while ministering at separate altars, that all are equally well-known, and their transactions fully understood.

Though extremely loth to exercise the authority, necessity has compelled me to grant several dispensations, waiving the time required to elapse between the reception of and the ballot upon a petition; but in every instance full proof was demanded and received that regular notices had been given, and in all cases, the time dispensed with was but a few days, and such action was induced by a desire to save useless expenses to and for the good of the Commandery making the request, and not for the benefit of any individual candidate.

I have persistently refused to grant any dispensations to waive the By-Law of this Grand Commandery, requiring a candidate to have been six months a Royal Arch Mason before his petition could be received in a Commandery, except in a single instance, that of Comp. J. C. Lennox, hailing from Arizona Territory; and in his case, only for the reason that no Commandery existed in that Territory, and the Companion desired to immediately leave for home, there to join a few other Sir Knights in an application for a dispensation to open a new Commandery.

On 16th July, 1869, by virtue of an edict passed at your last Conclave, I levied an assessment upon the Subordinate Commanderies of two dollars for each member borne upon their rolls on 1st January, 1869; the greater part of this assessment has been paid, and balance doubtless will be ere long, and the indebtedness of the Grand Commandery extinguished.

In accordance with the authority conferred upon me at the Special Grand Conclave held 5th May, 1869, I have appointed the following Knights as Grand Representatives of this Grand Commandery, with the rank of Past Grand Generalissimo herein, near their respective Grand Commanderies, as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, | near the Grand Commandery of Missouri. |
| Sir James H. Hopkins, | " " Pennsylvania. |
| Sir A. D. Sears, | " " Tennessee. |
| Sir A. E. Ames, | " " Minnesota. |
| Sir Robert L. Roddy, | " " Georgia. |
| Sir Edward A. Guilbert, | " " Iowa. |
| Sir Thomas J. Corson, | " " New Jersey. |
| Sir Josiah H. Drummond, | " " Maine. |
| Sir William C. Munger, | " " Kentucky. |
| Sir William W. Baker, | " " Massachusetts. |
| Sir Frank R. Jarvis, | " " Alabama. |

I have been notified of the appointment of R. E. Sir Samuel Manning Todd, as the Representative of the Grand Commandery of Georgia, and of R. E. Sir John Quincy Adams Fellows, as the Representative of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota, near this Grand Commandery; their credentials will be presented at this Grand Conclave, and I trust they will be duly recognized and received.

It had been my hope to be able to say that death had not taken from us any of our members during my term of office; and, indeed, we have only one to mourn; but yesterday we laid the mortal remains of the oldest Mason of Louisiana in the tomb. Sir Stephen Starr Selleck, died in this city on 16th February, 1870, full of years and honors; he was Grand Captain of the Guards

of this Grand Commandery since its organization; was one of the founders of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2; always active and zealous in his Christian warfare, and now reaps an abundant harvest, we have every reason to hope, in the Eternal Fields of the Blessed.

Finally, Sir Knights, let us all remember that we are bound together by the double ties of Christianity and Masonry; let us be ever actuated by the sublime teachings of both, and we shall continue to experience and deserve the Harmony and Prosperity that now reign among us.

On motion of Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, the address was ordered to be spread on the Record Book and published with the proceedings, and approved so far as the approval of the Grand Commandery is necessary.

The following report from the E. Grand Treasurer was read, which was, on motion, adopted, and the vouchers ordered to be cancelled:

Grand Commandery K. T. of the State of Louisiana,
in account with *E. Blessey, Treasurer:*

1869.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| February 12—Balance account rendered..... | \$ 30 50 |
| September 23—Cash received..... | 176 00 |
| December 13— “ “ | 324 00 |
| February 18— “ “ | 150 00 |
| | <hr/> \$680 50 |
| Paid warrant No. 17—A. E. Billings..... | \$ 76 80 |
| “ “ No. 18—S. S. Selleck..... | 10 00 |
| “ “ No. 19—I. T. Hinton..... | 226 63 |
| “ “ No. 20—L. Graham & Co..... | 40 00 |
| “ “ No. 21—J. P. Hornor..... | 22 25 |
| “ “ No. 22—N. O. Times..... | 31 40 |
| “ “ No. 23—Picayune..... | 16 30 |
| “ “ No. 24—N. O. Crescent..... | 21 75 |
| | <hr/> \$445 13 |

Balance due G. C. K. T. of the State of Louisiana.....\$235 37

E. and O. E.

E. BLESSEY, *Treasurer.*

New Orleans, February 18, 1870.

The Grand Recorder submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted, and ordered to be printed with the proceedings:

NEW ORLEANS, February 18, 1870.

To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

SIR KNIGHTS:

Again it becomes my duty to submit for your consideration the official transactions of my office during the past year.

Soon after the close of the last annual Grand Conclave, the proceedings were

prepared and five hundred copies printed. These were distributed in the usual manner.

All the Commanderies in this jurisdiction have made correct returns and paid their dues.

Annexed you have my account current for examination and approval.

G. Sontag, *Grand Recorder*,

In account with the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| 1869. | Dr. | |
| Sept. 23, | To Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2..... | \$ 176 00 |
| Oct. 15, | Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1..... | 200 00 |
| Dec. 23, | Orleans Commandery No. 3..... | 124 00 |
| 1870 | | |
| Jan. 8, | Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2..... | 35 00 |
| Jan. 8, | Orleans Commandery No. 3..... | 55 00 |
| Feb. 18, | Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1..... | 60 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$ 650 00 |
| 1868. | Cr. | |
| Sept. 23, | By Grand Treasurer..... | \$176 00 |
| Dec. 13, | “ “ | 324 00 |
| 1870. | | |
| Feb. 18, | “ “ | 150 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$650.00 |

Courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,
Grand Recorder.

Sir James B. Scot, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted the following report, which was ordered to be printed with the proceedings :

To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully beg leave to report that they have received the proceedings of the following Grand Commanderies:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| ALABAMA, 1869, | MAINE, 1869, | NEW YORK, 1869, |
| CONNECTICUT, 1869, | MASSACHUSETTS AND R. I., 1869, | OHIO, 1869, |
| GEORGIA, 1869, | MINNESOTA, 1868, 1869, | PENNSYLVANIA, 1869, |
| ILLINOIS, 1869, | MISSISSIPPI, 1870, | TEXAS, 1869, |
| INDIANA, 1869, | MISSOURI, 1869, | VERMONT, 1869, |
| IOWA, 1869, | NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1868, 1869, | VIRGINIA, 1869, |
| KENTUCKY, 1869, | NEW JERSEY, 1869, | WISCONSIN, 1869. |

—in all twenty-one; California, Kansas, Michigan and Tennessee being absent from our list. Of these, Tennessee having changed the time of meeting from September to May, held no conclave in 1869; the proceedings of Michigan are not yet published; Kansas is a new Grand Body and we give a notice of its formation; but we have received nothing from California for the past two years, and, so far as we can learn, no copy of its transactions for 1868 or 1869 has been

received on this side of the Rocky Mountains. Regretting that we are unable to present a complete report, we commence our review with

ALABAMA—Tenth annual conclave at Montgomery, December 2, 1869; Sir Peleg Brown, R. E. Grand Commander; six Commanderies represented.

After noticing the death of three Knights of his own jurisdiction, the Grand Commander feelingly alludes to the loss sustained by the Grand Commandery of Virginia, in the demise of their Grand Commander, Sir E. H. Gill. During the recess he granted a dispensation for the formation of a new Commandery, and is of the opinion that the first three officers of such creations should be regularly installed, and that a dispensation should "be neither more nor less than a limited charter liable to be revoked or made perpetual at the expiration of the time for which it was given." This subject was referred to a committee to report at the next annual conclave. The change proposed conforms to the practice of the A. and A. Rite, and in support of his views Sir Peleg says:

By a careful perusal of ancient usages I am satisfied the present mode of granting dispensations is of modern origin, and cannot look upon it otherwise than an innovation, making a new or altering an old landmark.

We are at a loss to understand this, unless Sir Peleg claims that the granting of charters is an innovation also. In 1717, the Grand Lodge of England adopted a regulation, declaring "that the privilege of assembling as Masons should no longer be unlimited, but that it should be vested in certain lodges convened in certain places, and legally authorized by the warrant of the Grand Master and the consent of the Grand Lodge;" and Preston informs us that dispensations were first issued in 1718. If, therefore, dispensations are an innovation in symbolic Masonry, it is clear that it was introduced almost a century before Webb and his associates manufactured the American Order of the Temple; and when the American system of Masonry was formed, the granting of dispensations was provided for in the constitutions of the Grand Bodies of the different grades. It is only necessary, however, to notice this so far as it relates to our own Order.

The Grand Encampment [now Commandery] of New York was regularly constituted, January 22, 1814, by the "Sov. Grand Consistory of the Chiefs of Exalted Masonry for the United States of America, its territories and dependencies, sitting in New York." The Grand Encampment held its first conclave June 18, 1814, and, in an address delivered upon that occasion, the motives which led to its establishment are thus stated:

The numerous Encampments of Knights Templars now existing within this State, being self-created bodies, are consequently governed by their own private and individual laws, acknowledging no superior authority, because, in fact, none heretofore existed.

A longer continuance of this state of things could be but productive of ill consequences, inasmuch as it was to be apprehended that these sorts of unconstituted associations, so rapidly increasing in number, would, sooner or later, have lessened, if not entirely destroyed, that commanding respect due to so dignified a degree as that of Knight Templar. The want of a superior authority, which alone can regulate and preserve order in the proceedings of subordinate Encampments, not only might have induced such isolated corps to encroach upon prerogatives not their own, but must have ended in producing some serious misunderstandings among themselves, thereby occasioning a schism equally injurious to the prosperity and the glory of exalted Masonry.

At this conclave, the draft of a constitution was submitted, considered, and

laid over to the 24th of the same month, when it was adopted. The seventh section, of the first article, declares: "No new Encampment or Council shall be deemed legal that may be hereafter formed and opened without a charter from the Grand Encampment, or a constitutional dispensation from the Thrice Ill. Grand Master;" thus following the practice of the York Rite in the creation of subordinates, instead of adopting that of the A. and A. Rite, although the Grand Encampment had been formed under the auspices of a Grand Consistory of the latter Rite.

The General Grand Encampment of the United States was formed on the 20th and 21st of June, 1816, and the constitution then adopted provided for the granting of dispensations in the same manner as is practiced at the present day. The great majority of the Grand Commanderies in the United States were formed by subordinates, which were called into existence by virtue of dispensations issued under the authority of the Grand Encampment, and a practice which has been sanctioned by uninterrupted usage from the first formation of the Grand Body cannot, in our opinion, be called an innovation so far as Templar Masonry is concerned.

Another objection urged by Sir Peleg is, that a Commandery under dispensation cannot be said to be "legally constituted," unless the first three officers are regularly installed, and not until then would he "consider them properly empowered to work, nor, in the true sense of the term, would the acts they do be legal; neither with a strict construction of power could they expect their acts to be recognized by regular Templars." This objection will not bear investigation. In the strict sense of the term a Commandery is "legally constituted" when it is opened under constitutional authority; and its acts, if within the scope of the powers granted it by that authority, are as valid when working under a dispensation as if it had a charter and its officers were regularly installed.

Peace and harmony reign throughout the jurisdiction. One charter was granted; no grievances were reported; the representative system having been adopted at the previous conclave, the appointments made during the recess were confirmed; and an invitation from Montgomery Commandery, to aid in conferring the Orders of Knighthood and partake of a banquet prepared for the occasion, was accepted.

Sir A. J. Walker, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, not having been able to complete his report on account of ill health, was granted further time. From a note appended by the Grand Recorder, we regret to learn that the same cause prevented its completion in season for publication.

Sir H. G. Hazelrigg, P. G. Commander of Indiana, was present during the conclave and performed the installation ceremonies.

The statutes were amended in order to prevent the annual conclave interfering with the annual meetings of the other Masonic Grand Bodies, and the next conclave is to be held at Mobile, in November, 1870.

Three memorial pages, on which are recorded the names of the Knightly dead, are appended to the proceedings.

Statistics—Commanderies, 9; Membership, 249; Knighted, 42.

Sir Peleg Brown, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir E. M. Hastings, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

CONNECTICUT—Annual conclave at New Haven, May 13, 1869; Sir Amos Treat, R. E. Grand Commander; eight Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is brief, and is devoted principally to matters of local interest. Peace and harmony reign within the asylums, and, during the year, one hundred companions had received the honors of Knighthood. He pays a beautiful tribute to the memory of Sir Thos. H Seymour, who was distinguished for his Knightly virtues, and to that of Sir S. B. Gorham, Grand Prelate. Appropriate resolutions were adopted, and monumental tablets commemorate their names and rank.

He was present at the meeting of the Grand Encampment at St. Louis, and speaks quite eloquently of the feasting and banqueting on that occasion, but adds "the business transacted was not of a character to require particular mention." He reports the general encampment and review of the subordinate Commanderies, at Bridgeport, in September, 1868. Two hundred and fifty-one Knights were present, and, although one Commandery did not report for duty in obedience to his order, he considers the experiment a complete success. On his suggestion the regulations were amended and hereafter the semi-annual conclave is to be dispensed with, this annual review being substituted therefor.

In concluding his address, the Grand Commander remarks:

Permit me to urge you to guard well the entrance to your asylums, so that no unclean hands be laid upon your holy altars, and no unhallowed foot tread your sacred courts. While so many crowd your gates seeking admission, be each one a sentinel, and admit none but the best. Our temple should be built with precious stones.

The late Grand Treasurer, Benj. Beecher, was expelled for having appropriated to his own use all the funds of the Grand Body.

Several Sir Knights presented their commissions as representatives of sister Grand Commanderies; whereupon they were received and acknowledged in due form, and the Grand Commander authorized to make reciprocal appointments.

One charter was granted; and a system of tactics and drill, based upon Upton's army tactics, adopted and ordered to be printed for distribution among the subordinates.

The Grand Recorder, Sir E. G. Storer, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. The proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies, and those of the late triennial session are reviewed in a genial and courteous manner—Louisiana receiving favorable mention.

Statistics—Commanderies, 9; Membership, 1069; Knighted, 107.

Sir Amos S. Treat, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir E. G. Storer, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

GEORGIA—Eighth annual conclave at Augusta, April 27, 1869; Sir Thomas W. Chandler, R. E. Grand Commander; seven Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is a brief but business-like paper. He makes a feeling allusion to the death of the Rev. Sir Lewis Lawshe, Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery; states that \$100, the balance of the fund so generously donated by the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania for the relief of worthy widows and orphans, had been properly distributed; reports that he had entered into mutual representation with the Grand Commanderies of Missouri and Tennessee; mentions in complimentary terms the hospitalities tendered

him when attending the meeting of the Grand Encampment at St. Louis, and pays a tribute to the ability of our Past Grand Master, Sir Henry L. Palmer; announces in appropriate terms the death of Grand Commander Sir E. H. Gill of Virginia; and acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of twenty-one Grand Commanderies. There is, however, no report on Correspondence; but as a committee has been appointed, we hope this will be remedied in future.

A Past Grand Commander's jewel was presented to the venerable Sir Wm. Tracy Gould in appreciation of his long and valuable services; Sir Samuel Lawrence made an appropriate address on the occasion, and the recipient a feeling response. An invitation was received and accepted to partake of a banquet tendered by Georgia Commandery No. 1. The Welch tactics and drill were adopted. The Committee on Returns reported that not a single Commandery in the State was in arrears for dues—a satisfactory proof of their prosperity. The next annual conclave is to be held at Macon, and it was resolved to have a public demonstration upon the occasion.

Two memorial pages accompany the proceedings: one is inscribed to the memory of Rev. Sir Lewis Lawshe, Grand Prelate; the other to that of Sir Simri Rose, who died April 4, 1869. He was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge at the time of his death, and had held the office for twenty-five years.

Statistics—Commanderies, 7; Membership, 284; Knighted, 17.

Sir Thomas W. Chandler, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Charles R. Armstrong, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

ILLINOIS—Thirteenth annual conclave at Chicago, October 26, 1869; Sir Jerome R. Gorin, R. E. Gr. Commander; twenty-seven Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is an excellent paper. After announcing a high degree of prosperity and harmony throughout his jurisdiction, he makes an earnest exhortation that each Sir Knight should, in all he does and says, closely scrutinize his conduct in order to see whether it comports with the teachings of Him who "spake as never man spake." He says.

It is to be feared, at least, that many Sir Knights do not fully realize the importance and meaning of their obligations. Are we, indeed, ready to draw the sword in defence of the Christian religion? "Our weapons are not carnal, but spiritual;" "we have not to contend with flesh and blood, but with spiritual wickedness in high places." Let us, then, arm ourselves with the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God, that we may be able to defend ourselves against the attacks of our enemies. I have often heard this noble sentiment uttered: "I hold no enmity or ill-will against a soul on earth which I could not freely reconcile should I see in him, or them, a corresponding disposition;" but there is still a higher, nobler, and purer sentiment, and one more in unison with the teachings of the Christian religion, and more in accordance with the lesson taught in the Lord's Prayer, and that is, I freely forgive every wrong which any human being may have committed against me, in word or in deed. This we must do if we hope to be forgiven.

He issued three dispensations to form new Commanderies, and charters were granted them during the conclave. Having entered into mutual representation with the Grand Commanderies of Ohio, Tennessee, Georgia and New York, he hopes the system may become general, as "these courtesies are calculated to knit the followers of the Cross more closely together, in the bonds of fraternal love, and assist us in carrying out the great work before us." He recommends that the degrees of Royal and Select Master be made a pre-requisite for the

Orders of Knighthood. The committee to whom the address was referred, coincide with him in opinion and say, "Cryptic Masonry is a part and parcel of Ancient Craft Masonry." This is a new item for those who know the history of the Council degrees, and we think if they do not possess sufficient merit to perpetuate their own existence, the Orders of Knighthood should not be taxed with their support. The constitution of the Grand Encampment only requires that the applicant for the Orders shall be a Royal Arch Mason, and Past Grand Master B. B. French decided that "it would be an improper innovation in the by-laws of any Commandery to require that the candidate should be a Royal and Select Master." The subject was referred to a special committee to report at the next annual conclave, when, we hope, the proposed innovation will be abandoned.

Death had not visited the Grand Commandery during the year, but he pays a beautiful tribute to the memory of Grand Commander Gill, of Virginia, and assures the Knights of that jurisdiction of the sympathy of their Fraters in Illinois in their affliction.

The business transacted was of local interest. The committee appointed at the last conclave exemplified the work and ritual of the Orders, which was adopted, and the Grand Commander appointed "custodian," with power to promulgate the same in such manner as he may deem proper: the Committee on Grievances made a verbal report that no matter of difference had been presented for their consideration: and a vote of thanks was tendered to Apollo Commandery No. 1 for the hospitality and many courtesies extended to the Grand Body.

The Grand Recorder, Sir James H. Miles, presented an interesting report on Foreign Correspondence in which the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies, our own for 1869 included, are reviewed in a Knightly and courteous manner.

A beautiful "in memoriam" page records the names of the Sir Knights of the jurisdiction who departed this life during the Templar year.

A valuable appendix, containing the decisions of the Grand Encampment on questions of Templar jurisprudence, is annexed to the proceedings. It also contains two decisions by our present Grand Master, Sir William Sewall Gardner, which we now proceed to notice.

In his address, Grand Commander Gorin states that he had made a few decisions in Templar jurisprudence, only one of which was of any importance. The question arose as follows: The Grand Commandery having reversed the judgment of a subordinate Commandery, indefinitely suspending one of its members, he, laboring under the erroneous impression that his Commandery had taken an appeal to the Grand Encampment of the United States, desired to know what rights he had as a Templar, if any. Grand Commander Gorin submitted the case to Grand Master Gardner. The reply is of great length, and in it the Grand Master discusses in a very able manner the relative powers of the Grand Encampment and the State Grand Commanderies, reviews the most important decisions made by the Grand Encampment with reference to this question, and, after quoting the opinions of several distinguished Sir Knights upon the subject, decides as follows:

After a careful consideration of the case you present, I have come to the conclusion that the subordinate Commandery had no right to appeal from the

Grand Commandery of Illinois to the Grand Encampment of the United States, and that the decision of your Grand Commandery in reversing the decision of its subordinate Commandery was final and conclusive. The Sir Knight, therefore, has no judgment of suspension resting upon him, a final decision in his case having been reached.

By resolution, the following decision of Grand Master French was referred to Grand Master Gardner for his opinion:

After a clear ballot for a candidate, nothing except direct and undoubted testimony of unworthiness can interfere to prevent the conferring of the Orders. No mere notice, without full statement of the reasons for giving it, should be regarded as of any weight. If any Sir Knight states, in open Commandery, that he has reasons to give why a candidate, who has passed the ordeal of the ballot, should not be created a Sir Knight, these reasons must be received and duly weighed.

The opinion of Grand Master Gardner sustains the decision of Grand Master French. He states that by a reference to the proceedings of the Grand Encampment for 1862, it appears this decision was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who submitted a report which they had leave to withdraw, and as no report was subsequently made, the decision was not confirmed by the Grand Encampment. He then quotes the following decisions of Grand Master Hubbard:

Though an applicant may have been duly elected to receive the three Orders, and even has received the *first*, it is *always* within the power of the Encampment [Commandery], for good cause, to decline conferring the other Orders; and, in fact, it should do so in all cases where any of the regular members are opposed, and cannot be reconciled.

After a ballot unanimously in favor of an applicant, it is competent for the Grand Commander [Eminent Commander] to arrest the conferring of the Order, if he becomes satisfied that the applicant is not worthy; and it is his duty to decline conferring either Order (and though after a clear ballot) if it is well ascertained that one or more members object, and could not commune with such applicant. At no stage of the proceedings should an old member be unseated by a new one. Unity is ever to be preserved.

When a companion had been elected to receive the Orders, and then complaint was made against him in his Lodge for gross unmasonic conduct, I directed the Grand Commander not to confer any of the Orders upon him, unless he should be honorably acquitted of the charge. I also decided that it was competent for the Encampment to stay further action as to advancing a candidate at any stage of the proceedings.

The above decisions do not appear in the proceedings of the Grand Encampment. At the triennial session of 1853, Grand Master Hubbard did not incorporate his decisions in his address, but referred to them as accompanying it. A resolution was adopted requesting him to furnish the Grand Recorder "a digest of his edicts and decisions as mentioned in his report," to be published with the proceedings. Official duties prevented the Grand Master from furnishing the digest in season, and it was afterward published separately. This was fully explained at the triennial session of 1856, and the digest was referred to a committee who reported that, as it had been printed by order of the Grand Body, they "are not aware that any opinion is required from them in relation to it." In referring to this, Grand Master Gardner says: "Thus it appears that this question has been most skillfully avoided by the Grand Encampment; that it has never been judicially determined by it, although my distin-

guished predecessors have done all in their power to bring it up before the Grand Body for adjudication."

He then proceeds with his argument in favor of the decision referred to him. He holds that after a "clear ballot" the candidate is entitled to receive the Orders, and the right which has thus been awarded to him, "ought not to be subject to the caprice or prejudice of a single member": that the Commander "has the right and power commensurate in this respect with those of the Master of a Lodge, to refuse to confer the Orders upon any candidate, whom his Commandery has accepted;" that there is no power which can compel him to confer them, "especially if he acts conscientiously in refusing," as this is one of the Commander's prerogatives—for any abuse of which there is a remedy: but if a member objects, "it is for the Commandery, as a recognized body of Knights, organized as such, to determine the question in the same manner it determines all other questions:" and decides as follows:

If a member objects to conferring the Orders upon a candidate regularly accepted by a clear ballot, it would be the duty of the Commander to order the Knight to state his objections, either to the Commandery or to a committee thereof appointed to examine and consider them. In either event the Commandery must decide by a majority vote, of the sufficiency of the objections, in such a manner as the members may determine. It is a question which the Commandery must settle, and it is its absolute duty so to do. One member cannot, in this matter, act for his Companion Knights.

It is the right, and in some instances the duty of a member to object, and such objection being made, it is the duty of the Commandery to calmly and dispassionately weigh the reasons assigned, and determine their sufficiency.

I have always understood the law to be in accordance with this opinion, and I sincerely hope that we may have it definitely determined one way or the other, by the Grand Encampment, at its next triennial.

We join in the hope that the Grand Encampment may definitely determine this question—but, by reversing the above decision and affirming that of Grand Master Hubbard. In our opinion the law of the Lodge ought to govern the case, and the general current of authority is that the objection of a member operates as an unfavorable ballot, and the candidate cannot be initiated or advanced until the objection is withdrawn. The reasons for this rule apply with equal force in the Commandery. No true Knight will be swayed by "caprice or prejudice" against a candidate who has received a clear ballot. But a member may not have been present when the ballot was taken; he may have received information affecting the character of the candidate, which he does not desire to state until he is satisfied of its correctness; or, he may have private reasons which he does not deem proper to reveal. From whatever cause the objection is made, whether stated or not, if made on the honor of a Knight, it should be respected. In the language of Grand Master Hubbard, "at no stage of the proceedings should an old member be unseated by a new one." To force a candidate into a Commandery by a majority vote would destroy the harmony of the body, and in all probability ruin is prosperity.

Statistics—Commanderies, 33; Membership, 1966; Knighted, 336.

Sir Charles E. Munger was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir James H. Miles re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

INDIANA—Fifteenth annual conclave at Indianapolis, April 6, 1869; Sir Thomas Newby, R. E. Grand Commander; sixteen Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is an able and interesting document. He granted dispensations for the formation of two new Commanderies, and having visited several of the subordinates he takes much pleasure in reporting "their proficiency in their several duties." In relation to the Grand Encampment he says:

There was no business of any special importance transacted during the session. The Grand gathering was more the friendly meeting of congenial souls, than for the transaction of any business of vital importance to the Order. The chief labor was performed when called from labor to refreshment. The papers of the day gave such vivid description of the "tactics and drill," the feast and the song, that any description of ours would entirely fail of doing justice to the subject. The Sir Knights of St. Louis bid us welcome to their Grand Tent, and the water and bread assumed such varieties of form and taste that we became lost in the endeavor to describe what we heard and saw.

From his closing remarks we quote the following eloquent admonition:

Sir Knights: I cannot close without calling to mind the peculiar obligations we have taken upon us. When we enter the Asylum, every object that meets our eye, from the banner that floats over us to the sword that hangs by our side, reminds us of the broad line of distinction which separates this Order—the Order of Knighthood—from the preceding degrees of Masonry. In them, the door opens to all who believe in *God*, the Father of all; but no one can approach the entrance door of the Asylum, who does not also believe in Christ, the Redeemer; and to give greater emphasis and significance to this belief, we have adopted the *Cross* as our chief emblem. We enroll ourselves as followers of Christ, as soldiers of the Cross. The mere statement of this fact, describes our moral obligations with an impressiveness to which words of mine can add no force.

But, alas! though we are so constantly reminded of the solemn obligations we have assumed, how often are they forgotten or disregarded!

Who of us can look back to the moment when, with faltering voice and trembling lip, we took upon ourselves the vows of a Templar, without remembering that we then and there resolved that our lives for the future should be governed by the great and holy principles we then professed?

Let us to-day renew that resolution with a firmer purpose, a more steadfast zeal. Intemperance and profanity are fearfully prevalent, and even the household of faith are not without sin. What spectacle can be more revolting than to behold one wearing our sacred emblem staggering with drunkenness? What sound can more shock the ear than blasphemous oaths from the tongue of one who bears upon his breast the holy cross? Yet, the one has been seen—the other has been heard. Let us see to it that such things shall no longer be; let us, by example, by admonition, and by discipline, if necessary, repress these evils, which disgrace the Order, and disgrace us.

Let us remember that he who wears the Cross,

"On whose dear arms so widely flung,
The weight of this world's ransom hung,"

has set himself up as an example to his brethren and to the world, that he has enlisted in a war against vice of every nature, his own passions, and his own weaknesses; and that he can lay aside his arms only when he shall follow his great leader through the dark valley, and with him stand upon the blessed shore, where—

"After this world's night,
And after storm and whirlwind,
Is calm, and joy and light."

The report of the Grand Overseer of the Work, Sir William Hacker, is made part of the annual address, and adds much to its interest, as it contains many historical reminiscences. Referring to the recent organization of Vincennes Commandery U. D., Sir Knight Hacker states that the first permanent settle-

ment in the State was made at Vincennes; the first Lodge was organized there, and was the only Lodge in the State for about eight years. From 1829 to 1836, that dark period of political anti-Masonry, when so many Lodges suspended their labors, and even the Grand Lodge felt compelled to raise a committee to inquire into the expediency of dissolving its own organization, Vincennes Lodge No. 1 during that whole time never held less than twenty-four, and frequently as many as thirty-six, communications each year. The once celebrated and eccentric Lorenzo Dow presided over Vincennes Chapter No. 7 for several years, and was rarely ever absent from its communications. Local causes, which to some extent still exist, prevented the establishment of the Knightly Orders at this place until February, 1868, but as these causes are rapidly disappearing, a prosperous future is anticipated for the new Commandery.

From this excellent report we learn that Templar Masonry was first regularly organized in Indiana in 1848. The Grand Commandery was formed in 1854 with four subordinates. Only one charter was granted up to 1866, and the total membership reported that year was 318. This slow progress is attributed to the fact "that at the organization of the Grand Commandery, no action was had looking to a uniformity of work and rituals, leaving each Commandery, as she found them at the organization, to adopt and use such form of ceremonies and ritual, or none at all, as each subordinate for herself might deem best." But in 1866, a different course was adopted, and an able committee was appointed to whom the whole subject of ritual and drill was referred. Since that time the progress has been so marked, that fourteen Commanderies have been formed, "and not a sickly or torpid one among them," while the number created, during the past year, largely outnumbers the total membership reported in 1864.

Four charters were granted: no matter of grievance or complaint reported: the representative system adopted: and the subordinates ordered to furnish the Grand Recorder, at an early day, such historical facts connected with their organization and progress, as may be deemed important to make up a historical memoir of each Commandery.

A memorial tablet is inscribed with the name of Sir Hugh Hanna, who died in the seventieth year of his age, and whose Masonic career and virtues are commemorated in the address of the Grand Commander.

The preparation of the report on Foreign Correspondence in Indiana is assigned to the Grand Commander, and heretofore has been made part of the annual address. Departing from this custom, R. E. Sir Newby presents it in the usual form. The proceedings of only fifteen Grand Commanderies had been received, and we regret Louisiana is not of the number. He suggests that if Grand Recorders would acknowledge the receipt of proceedings on their arrival, those not heard from in due time could be forwarded, and the files kept complete. We hope Grand Recorders will make a note of this, and Govern themselves accordingly.

The exordium of the report would induce the belief that its preparation was not a labor of love. He says he has been "pursued by the phantom 'C. F. C.' wherever he goes" during the last few years, and he hopes to give "this ghost a final dodge with this report." But he wields a facile pen, and the report, although brief, is able and interesting. He is decidedly opposed to the Missouri and Wisconsin resolutions, and hopes both of those Grand Commanderies will rescind their action. He says:

If these restrictions, based, as we regard them, on the impulse of the moment, and not sanctioned by charity, were carried out to a greater or less degree in every Grand Commandery, where could a poor and weary pilgrim find a greeting to rest and refresh himself?

Sir John W. Simons, of New York, in his report for 1868, noticing the disparaging remarks of Grand Commander Hazelrigg on tactics and drill, said that on this subject he "follows the Indiana tangent, and concludes that every one should do just as he pleases, which is also the Indiana rule in regard to uniform." To show the superiority of the New York system, Sir John also cited a case where one of the Commanderies of that city appeared in public as an escort to the Grand Lodge at the funeral of one of its officers; about one hundred Knights were present on the occasion, all dressed and equipped alike, and under the application of tactics and drill, they marched twenty-five front, with the steadiness and precision of veterans; and he contrasts this with "the free and easy rule of Indiana." In reply, Sir Knight Newby says:

We have not the pleasure of knowing what Sir Hazelrigg's comments upon this extract on military matters would be, but we have yet to learn that our Order is an operative military organization; designed, in part, for *show*. Such points as relate to "tactics and drill" in our exercises in the Asylum, we concur in heartily, and encourage to the best of our ability; but if the obligations of the Order require Sir Knights of the present day to be as proficient as the members of the world-renowned New York Seventh Regiment, we have yet something to learn. We have been taught that Masonry was never designed for public view; the world will see our grief on accompanying the remains of a departed brother to their last resting place, and our halls cannot be built unseen; but beyond these two acts the profane are entitled to know nothing about our doings. We seek not the admiration nor the applause of any one; what our hand doeth, is done in secret, and when we go abroad to the sound of the loud timbrel to be seen of men, we are overstepping the landmarks. Accessions to our ranks are not to be made by pleasing the eye, nor tickling the palate; we seek to increase our numerical strength by the pleadings of that still small voice which whispers to the world of our "tactics and drill" in the several duties we owe to God, our country, and ourselves. We thank our New York Fraters for their courteous criticisms on our "tangencies," but we cannot see from the same military point of view.

Grand Commander Tufts, of New Hampshire, having recommended that the members of subordinate Commanderies should be required to uniform themselves within a specific time, Sir Knight Newby remarks:

Carrying out this principle, an applicant for the Orders must come, not only with a good moral character, but a full purse, ready at all times to fall in with all the whims that any Sir Knight may have power to "put through" to improve the style—a half inch of navy lace here—to change his black feathers for white—and the thousand and one dots and dashes which would improve the uniform. If money is one of the grand requirements for entering the Order, let us at once style it the "magnanimous and wealthy" Order, and let the humble classes know their true position.

This is not argument, and we doubt if even Sir Newby would question that uniformity adds to the impressiveness of our ceremonies. The uniform has been prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States; it is not subject to the "whim" of any one; and, even if a Commandery was never to appear in public, it is the duty of its members to equip and uniform themselves as the law directs. But Indiana, disregarding the regulations of the Grand Encampment in this respect, has adopted a "regalia" of its own, and "it is permitted Sir Knights to add thereto such other regalia not inconsistent with the orders on

that subject, as their rank will allow." "The thousand and one dots and dashes," therefore, have no application out of his own jurisdiction. Besides, as postulants for the honors of Knighthood have to pay for them, "money is one of the grand requirements for entering the Order;" and if candidates were informed that it would be obligatory on them to uniform and equip themselves within a specified time after receiving the Orders, they would make their calculations accordingly.

Statistics—Commanderies, 18; Membership, 694; Knighted, 224.

Sir Thomas Newby, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John M. Bramwell, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

IOWA—Sixth annual conclave, at Mount Pleasant, October 19, 1869; Sir Robert F. Bower, R. E. Grand Commander; eleven chartered Commanderies and three U. D. represented.

The address of the Grand Commander shows him to have been a zealous and efficient officer. He granted dispensations for the formation of four new Commanderies, and visited a number of the subordinates, lecturing and practicing them in the work and drill, and receiving a sincere and hearty welcome wherever he went. Noticing discrepancies in the work, he recommends the appointment of a committee upon ritual and tactics, and the suggestion was adopted. Alluding to the rapid increase of our Order, he is of opinion that a few strong Commanderies are better than many weak ones; that, in issuing dispensations for new Commanderies, the E. Commander appointed should be fully qualified for the position; that no application should be entertained except for places large enough to support the Commandery; and, above all, that none should be admitted into our Asylums except the good and true. He reports the following decisions:

At our banquets, it is not essential to use wine. As it has been generally used from time immemorial, for such purposes, I see no objection to it. That, however, is a matter of taste, left to the decision of the different Commanderies, as there is nothing in our rules or regulations making it obligatory.

No one who does not believe in the Divinity of, and our salvation through the atonement of, our Blessed Saviour Jesus Christ, is worthy to be dubbed a Knight Templar; nor do I believe that the Order should be conferred upon any one who cannot subscribe to that faith. Our Order is founded upon the Christian religion, and its chief corner stone is Jesus Christ. How can we then regard lightly so important a consideration?

Having received a special invitation, Grand Commander Bower attended the semi-centennial anniversary of St. John's Commandery No. 4, of Philadelphia, June 15, 1869, and gives a pleasing account of the doings on that occasion. But as he says it was the "fiftieth semi-centennial anniversary" that was celebrated, Massachusetts might as well withdraw its claim to seniority at once, for this places the establishment of the Christian Orders of Knighthood in Pennsylvania a few hundred years before the Christian era. We confess this rather disturbs our ideas of chronology—and we call upon Sir Guilbert to solve our doubts.

In reference to the Missouri resolutions, R. E. Sir Bower says:

I regret to observe the course pursued by the Grand Commandery of Missouri toward the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. I cannot approve their action, nor can I allow this opportunity to pass without uttering my solemn protest against their proceedings. There is nothing in our Order or the Scottish

Rite that should cause any disagreement or clashing. Both are separate organizations, and entirely independent of each other, and some of the wisest and most distinguished Masons of this country are members of both Orders. The great attributes of charity, mercy and toleration are particularly inculcated in our Order. Let not bigotry, hatred or intolerance raise their heads to mar the peace which should reign supreme in our Grand Bodies; and let not private piques or resentments govern us in our deliberations and judgments.

The committee to whom the address was referred heartily approve of the position taken by the Grand Commander on this subject, and hope "that the Grand Commandery of Missouri will recede ere long from its untenable position."

The report of the Deputy Grand Commander, Sir P. C. Wright, is unique—at least so far as self-complacency goes. He says:

I will respectfully report, that in accordance with my duties as V. E. Deputy Grand Commander, I have regularly visited and worked Holy Cross Commandery No. 10, of which I have the honor to be E. Commander, and have, on all proper and necessary festive occasions, aired and displayed in proper position the shoulder straps of the R. E. the Grand Commandery of the State of Iowa.

He adds that the only other duty he performed, was organizing a Commandery under dispensation, and, trusting this will prove satisfactory, appends his name as the 32d V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.

Three charters were granted, and other business of a local character transacted. A resolution, declaring "that hereafter any Knight Templar who becomes non-affiliated in the Chapter in which he has held membership, shall at once and by that act, become unaffiliated in the Commandery," was, after some discussion, referred to a special committee to report at the next annual conclave.

The public demonstration, which forms so interesting a feature at the annual meetings of our Iowa fraters, appears to have been a success. There was the usual procession, the McMurdy Devotional Service, the public installation, and an eloquent oration by Sir John A. Kasson. After the conclave was closed, the Sir Knights were entertained during the evening at a splendid banquet, prepared by Jerusalem Commandery No. 7, which was graced by the presence of their wives and daughters.

The report on "Fraternal" Correspondence is from the pen of Sir E. A. Guilbert, who was elected Grand Generalissimo but declined the honor. He had the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies and those of the Grand Encampment before him, and this report, like his previous ones, is exhaustive, interesting and suggestive. He advocates uniformity in work and tactics, and would like to see the system of holding annual encampments of the subordinate Commanderies introduced into Iowa. He is emphatic in his denunciation of the attack upon the A. and A. Rite, and thinks that Sir Knight Gouley ought to be canonized in order that the Commanderies in Missouri could with propriety be dedicated to him, instead of St. John the Almoner. Noticing that Grand Commander Gouley had appointed nineteen representatives near other Grand Commanderies, he says it proves Sir Gouley's "*practice is better than his preaching*," as "singularly enough, three at least of these nineteen appointees are 33d's, and several others are 32d's!" He reprobates the idea "that a Companion, who is a disbeliever in the sonship of Christ, the Redeemer, can be admitted to the accolade of a Templar," and says: "He who has assumed the vows of a Templar, is thereby bound to enter his protest, on all convenient occasions, against the infidel tendencies of the times, and if he does not do it he is forsworn." He is

severe on Sir Corson, of New Jersey, whose report he characterizes as full of fun and invective, but entirely out of place, and adds "if he would cavort less like a clown in a circus, it would be better for his reputation."

Our own proceedings receive a courteous and extended notice, in which he renews his attack upon the Grand Encampment of the United States, especially for the benefit of the writer of this report, who, he says, "like a blind and loyal son," bepraises that Grand Body as "the author and finisher of his Templar faith." He repeats his old song that the Grand Encampment has "left undone those things which it ought to have done," and regrets that "its lease of a useless life is lengthened by the St. Louis episode." He objects that the festivities and parades at the triennial meetings "should be considered the *summum bonum* of the Grand Body," as "they could be as heartily enjoyed, and more rationally, likewise, if they were made to follow as a compensation for *work*, real, energetic, vitalized *work*, on behalf of the Order, which had previously been done in the Asylum." He says he used the word "aggressive" in his former report understandingly, and desires to see the Grand Body "become *aggressive* in the sense of the roots of the phrase." He would have it "step out of its beaten path of inefficiency," and "go forward in the direction of an enlarged appreciation of the theory on which it is founded." In that case, he would "reverently pray for its longevity," and become its "leal admirer; for then there would be something for a freeman to admire, whereas now there is nothing." And he adds "if this be treason, make the most of it."

This is in reply to the remarks in our former report on Sir Guilbert's want of respect for the Grand Encampment; but to the charge then made "that he bears it allegiance simply because he cannot successfully raise the standard of revolt," he makes no answer and thus tacitly acknowledges its truth. It is only necessary, therefore, to notice the plea set up in justification of the minor offence. Abandoning the charge that the action of the Grand Encampment tended toward centralization, he now accuses it of total inefficiency; and, looking upon it as a *caput mortuum*, he thinks it ought to be consigned "to the tomb of all the Capulets."

Admitting that we are loyal to the Grand Encampment, we are not "blind" to the fact that the St. Louis meeting was more a congenial gathering of kindred spirits than that of a legislative body; but we do not consider the festivities on such occasions the "*summum bonum*" for which the Grand Encampment was formed. We would like to see the interests of our Order made the prominent feature of the triennial sessions, and the banqueting postponed until all the business before the Grand Body had been transacted—and we would have that also characterized by temperance and moderation.

If the Grand Encampment has "left undone those things which it ought to have done," it is because the representatives of the State Grand Bodies have not attended to their duty. Such non-action forms a proper subject for criticism, and if this is done in the right spirit no exception can be taken. But *persiflage* is not argument, and such epithets as "a title factory," "an asylum for retired Masonic politicians," and similar phrases are not becoming terms to apply to a Grand Body, which numbers among its officers some of the ablest and most distinguished Masons in the land—men, too, whom on every occasion, except in connection with the Grand Encampment, Sir Guilbert delights to praise

for all that is noble, good, and true. We hope he will take this into consideration, and, instead of persisting in his attempt to weaken the influence of the Central Grand Body, fall into the ranks and co-operate with those who are laboring to make it "the efficient counsellor," which he professes so much to desire.

In reply to our inquiry, we are courteously informed that "The Evergreen," of which Sir Guilbert is editor, is the "organ" of the Grand Commandery of Iowa, only in the sense "that it is recognized as one medium for the communication of official documents to the craft," and that the Grand Body is not responsible for the utterances of the editor, "who is disposed to 'gang his own gait,' a something he would be quite likely to do under any circumstances." We are grateful for the information, but as his Scotch quotation is rather mixed, we give him one in the choicest Doric: "He that maun to Cupar, maun to Cupar."

The closing paragraph of the report has the enigmatical letters "P. P. C." placed over it, and we are unable to solve the riddle.

Statistics—Commanderies, 14; Membership, 570; Knighted, 68.

Sir R. F. Bower, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir W. B. Langridge, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

KANSAS—No proceedings received, but we learn incidentally that a convention was held at Leavenworth, October 21, 1868, when it was determined to form a Grand Commandery. On the 29th of December following, the Grand Body was organized under the authority of the M. E. Grand Master, Sir Wm. S. Gardner. The officers elect were installed by proxy of the Grand Master, and a code of statutes and regulations adopted.

We tender our best wishes for the success and prosperity of the new Grand Body, and hope hereafter to find its proceedings upon our table.

Statistics—Commanderies, 4; Membership, 101.

Sir Wm. O. Gould, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Erasmus T. Carr, E. Grand Recorder.

KENTUCKY—Twenty-second annual conclave, at Lexington, June 10, 1869; Rev. Sir John M. Worrall, R. E. Grand Commander; eight Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is an able and eloquent production. After alluding to the advantages derived from our annual reunions, he thus remarks upon the general condition of our Order:

Not only is this period remarkable for the wonderful progress the Order has made; but also for the enthusiasm that seems everywhere to characterize its members. There were times of old when the eloquent voice of some devoted champion roused all the nations of Christendom to a common purpose. And, moved by a universal impulse, unnumbered armies swept on with irresistible ardor to the great undertakings which they had espoused. Of this common impulse the Knights of the Cross fully partook, and when the trumpet of their leaders sounded the march or the onset, they came like the thick forest in serried numbers, and like the tornado in irresistible energy. Not unlike the enthusiasm of the olden time is that which, in many places, marks the course of the Knights of our Order. Their gatherings have been by thousands; their impulse like the swelling waves of the ocean.

But one of the most promising things connected with the Order abroad, is the harmony and unity that has been finally, and I hope permanently established. All the Grand Commanderies of all the States have now accepted the place of compeers, under one fraternal embodiment of their power and principle, in the

Grand Encampment of the United States of America; and I believe they have all made their constitutions and laws to harmonize in the main, with one another, and with the supreme head.

He recommends the adoption of the representative system; announces the death of Grand Commander Gill, of Virginia; and refers to a pleasing incident connected with the return of a sword, which had been carried off during the war. A Sir Knight of Columbus, O., recognizing it as belonging to our Order bought it, and presented it to the Grand Commandery of Ohio to be returned through its agency to the proper owner. The Grand Recorder of that body, Sir John D. Caldwell, entered into correspondence with Grand Commander Worrall on the subject; inquiries were instituted, and the sword returned to the family of the deceased owner.

During the year he visited most of the subordinate Commanderies, and reports peace, harmony and order prevailing; most of them increasing in numbers and advancing in the knowledge of the work and drill. He issued one dispensation for the formation of a new Commandery, and, as there are no subordinates in the southern and southwestern portions of the State, recommends the appointment of a special committee to devise some plan for the establishment of Commanderies in that section.

One charter was granted; the minimum fee for the Orders was fixed at fifty dollars; and the representative system adopted.

The installation ceremonies were performed in public, the Rev. Sir Lyman Seeley delivering an eloquent oration, which does not appear in the proceedings. After the ceremonies were over, the Sir Knights escorted the ladies to a banquet, tendered them by Webb Commandery No. 2—a chivalric custom which adds greatly to the charm of such reunions.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again from the pen of the Grand Recorder, Sir Wm. C. Munger, and gives an interesting abstract of the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies, Louisiana for 1869 included. His comments are few—but made in a genial spirit and courteous tone. In his notice of Iowa, he refers to the substitution of the word “commendation” for “condemnation,” in an extract from his former report, which, he says, “is at least a ‘slight variation’ of the language,” and adds:

We suppose it was the *printer's* fault. They have many *errors* to answer for, and oftentimes those that are not their own. But lay it on them, they can stand it—they are good fellows for that purpose—they ought to be *good*, they are so often seen “*correcting their errors*.”

Seven memorial tablets commemorate the virtues of the Knightly dead.

Statistics—Commanderies, 10; Membership, 473; Knighted, 77.

Rev. Sir J. M. Worrall, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Wm. C. Munger, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

MAINE—Annual conclave at Portland, May 5, 1869; Sir Moses Dodge, R. E. Grand Commander; eleven Commanderies represented.

The account of his stewardship, as rendered by the Grand Commander, in his address, proves him to have been a zealous and efficient officer. With one exception, he visited all the subordinates in his jurisdiction, and reports them enjoying peace, harmony and a healthy prosperity. He represented his Grand Body at the last triennial meeting of the Grand Encampment, and after detail-

ing the festivities, remarks "as there was not much legislation, either for good or evil, it might very properly be styled a grand Masonic festival." He recommends a yearly parade and encampment of the subordinates, as tending to produce a greater uniformity in work and drill than could be effected by any other means. He pays a feeling tribute to the dead, and closes with expressing a desire to vacate the high station which he had filled with dignity and ability for the past three years.

Several eminent Sir Knights presented their credentials, as representatives from sister Grand Commanderies, and were received and welcomed as such; whereupon a resolution was adopted, authorizing the Grand Commander to appoint representatives "near such other Grand Commanderies as may signify a desire for an interchange." An amendment to the statutes, providing that "a candidate rejected in a Commandery may apply to another by the unanimous secret ballot of the Commandery rejecting him, at a stated conclave, and not otherwise," was adopted. The minimum fee for the Orders was fixed at thirty dollars: in our opinion this is too low a figure, and think it would have been better if the recommendation of the Grand Commander to make it forty dollars had been adopted. A petition was presented for the establishment of a new Commandery; but the appropriate committee reported unfavorably, believing that the best interests of Templar Masonry did not, at present, require any addition to the number of Commanderies in the State. The committee appointed at the last annual conclave to confer with a similar committee of the Grand Council R. and S. M., on the subject of making the Council degrees a prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood, reported that no conference had been held—it having been concluded to let the matter drop for the present.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by Sir Josiah H. Drummond, which is a sufficient guarantee for its excellence. The proceedings of the Grand Encampment and twenty-five Grand Commanderies, are reviewed in a knightly and courteous manner; Louisiana, for 1869, receiving favorable mention.

He closes his notice of the doings of the Grand Encampment, with the following just remarks:

It will be perceived that but little business of importance was transacted. We suspect there is some ground for the complaint made in some quarters, that the festivities were so numerous that they engrossed so much of the time, that but little was left for the transaction of business. These social reunions are of immense benefit in cementing the bonds of Knighthood, provided they are not carried to an extent which causes business to be neglected, and is productive of excesses that tarnish the fair fame of our Order. To prevent this the utmost caution should be used by those in authority.

Sir W. B. Langridge, of Iowa, commenting upon the Maine regulation, which requires a rejected candidate to have the unanimous recommendation of the Commandery rejecting him before he can apply to another, remarked that it looks "a little hard that one person, who happens to get in first, and is meanly actuated by malicious spite," may be allowed, not only to keep a good man out of his own Commandery, but, even after a change of residence, to prevent his applying elsewhere; and added that the regulation might have been adopted to meet some particular case. In reply, Sir Josiah says:

It was *not* intended "to meet a particular case," though it may have been

suggested by one. It seems to us that this is a logical result of requiring a unanimous ballot in any case. The presumption of such requirement is that no "one who happens to get in first" will be actuated by malicious motives. The fact that a candidate is rejected by a single ballot does not show that the rejection is malicious; if it does, a single ballot should not reject. In some cases it is so, we admit; but the difficulty is that we do *not* know and *cannot* know when it is malicious and when it is not. We really act upon the presumption that a rejection is never malicious; though this presumption is incorrect, we do not see how, *practically*, we can act upon any other.

He is opposed to the suggestion that the annual conclaves of the different Grand Commanderies should be held at the same time, and gives the following conclusive reasons;

1. The time which will best convene the craft is not the same in all the States; and each State should fix that time which will secure the largest attendance from its subordinates.

2. It would practically prevent visiting Grand Commanderies in other jurisdictions, as no Sir Knight can well be in two places at the same time.

3. Reports on Correspondence would be limited to proceedings which had taken place at least a year before the time of making the report; whereas, if the meetings are held at different times, scattered along during the year, our proceedings go out, are reviewed by nearly all the others, and those reviews get to us in season for examination at our next conclave, practically making the information furnished by our reports *nearly a year* more recent than it would be under the suggested arrangement.

He is also opposed to interference by one Masonic Rite with another Rite, styling itself Masonic, and reproduces the remarks of Sir Knight Langridge, of Iowa, upon this subject, as expressive of his own views.

Noticing the general prosperity which prevails, he says:

But we should fail in our duty, did we not utter a word of *caution*. In our gatherings upon festive occasions, there is a tendency to excess that has more than once produced results disgraceful to the Order. Temperance is taught in all the degrees and orders of Masonry; but no other one is under so solemn obligation to avoid *all* excess as the Knight of the Temple. But it *does* happen that, on such occasions, Sir Knights will forget themselves and their duties, and appear to the world more like Knights of Bacchus than Knights of the Cross. And this has happened to those high in Masonic station and reputation, as well as to those in the ranks. For such a one to be guilty of *intemperance*, not to say *drunkenness*, upon any occasion, there is no excuse: the disgrace thereby brought upon the Order cannot be estimated; but to be guilty of it upon a *Masonic* occasion, and while wearing Masonic clothing and jewels, is an offence that should be visited with condemnation speedy and certain, and the higher the station of the offender the more sure and condign should be the punishment. If they care not for themselves, they *should* care for the Order; but if they show by their conduct that they do not care for either, the craft should care for themselves.

It is with deep sorrow that we have learned that these remarks are called for by what happened at St. Louis. We do not care to discuss who were guilty of excesses, or to what extent they were carried, or who were in fault. It is sufficient to know that some were not strong enough to prevent disgracing the uniform they wore, and the cause in which they held themselves out to the world to be engaged. If such things could happen there, at the fountain head, how can we expect that such proceedings will not be copied in all the Asylums in the country? This is a danger to be guarded against; it is better to forego celebrations than to lower the reputation and character of the Order; all will admit this, and we trust all will assist in preventing the occurrence of anything that would call a blush to the cheek of a Christian Knight.

The sessions of the Grand Encampment should be models for all under its

authority. But if its sessions are to become occasions for excesses and drunkenness, the fewer we have the better. In protesting against anything which might lead to such results, we feel sure that we express the sentiments of the vast majority of the Sir Knights of Maine. The M. E. Grand Master was at St. Louis, and must, in a measure, be aware of the faults and abuses of the occasion; and none who know him need to be assured that he will exercise all care to the utmost of his authority to prevent similar scenes at Baltimore in 1871. But he should be sustained and assisted by all who love Knighthood. The surest way to assist him is to recognize the extent of the danger, and to shun it constantly in our own jurisdictions. Knowing the weakness of humanity, and the readiness with which good intentions yield to temptation, we submit to the calm judgment of our fellow Knights, that our safety lies only in the *absolute abstinence from intoxicating drinks on all Masonic occasions*. This may be considered extreme, but observation and experience teach that no other course is safe; and, therefore, unless we love Knighthood less than the gratification of appetite, we are bound to follow it.

These remarks have been very generally indorsed, and we doubt not that attention having been directed to this subject, the occasion of reproach will be removed for the future.

A memorial page is set apart to Past Grand Commander Sir John Williams, who died in Bangor, June 16, 1868, in the seventy-eighth year of his age.

The recommendation of the Grand Commander, in relation to an annual parade and encampment, was referred to the subordinates, and having been favorably entertained by nearly all the Commanderies, general orders were issued for them to report in Portland, August 24, 1869. Nine Commanderies reported, and, with three bands of music and banners flying, they were conveyed by a steamer to Cushing's Island, where tents had been pitched for their accommodation. Three days were spent in camp, under strict military regime, as will be seen from the following "programme:"

Tuesday, August 24th.—Assigning them to their respective quarters. Guard mounting. Sunset gun. Roll call. Music at headquarters by the band. School of the officers at 8 o'clock, P. M., at Grand Marquee. Drill will be in the school of the soldier, school of the company, and school of the battalion. Tattoo at 9:30. Taps at 10.

Wednesday, 25th.—Reveille at 5 A. M. Sunrise gun. Roll call. Breakfast call at 6:30. Surgeon's call at 7:30. Guard mounting at 8. Company drill from 9 to 11. Dinner call at 12 o'clock. Review at 2:30 P. M. Dress parade at 5:30. Sunset gun. Meeting of Grand Officers at 8. Tattoo at 9:30. Taps at 10. Officer of the Day, Sir George M. Holmes.

Thursday, 26th.—Order substantially the same as on Wednesday. Officer of the Day, Sir Stephen Berry.

The general opinion appears to be in favor of such encampments. The above programme is the first we have seen of the *modus operandi* in which they are conducted, and it seems to us that no more effectual means could be devised to transform our Commanderies into purely military organizations.

Statistics—Commanderies, 11; Membership, 917; Knighted, 149.

Sir Charles H. McLellan was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Ira Berry re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—Proceedings for 1868 not received, and the following abstract is compiled from the reports of Committees who were more fortunate in this respect than ourselves.

A special "assembly" was held at Greenfield, May 22, 1868, for the purpose

of constituting "Connecticut Valley Encampment." The "Grand Master," Sir William W. Baker, being prostrated by sickness, the ceremony was performed by the Deputy Grand Master, Sir Benj. Dean. He also presided at the semi-annual assembly, Providence, R. I., May 29th, and paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of the late Sir George W. Chase, author of "Chase's Digest," and other Masonic works. The work was exemplified: one charter was granted; and it was decided that the word "nearest" is to be construed to mean by "the usually traveled route," instead of an "an air line," and the *time* of travel was taken as the test, instead of the *distance*.

Sixty-third annual assembly at Boston, October 30, 1868; Sir William W. Baker, "M. E. Grand Master;" twenty-two subordinates represented. Resolutions in respect to the memory of Past Grand Master, Sir Simon W. Robinson, were adopted, and one charter granted. The reports of the various officers show that they were prompt and indefatigable in the discharge of their duties during the long continued sickness of their chief. The Deputy Grand Master was present at the triennial meeting of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and gave a graphic account of the doings in St. Louis, remarking that the meeting of other Grand Bodies at the same time and place, "induced the fraternity far and wide to treat the occasion as if it were intended to be a great Masonic festival, rather than a meeting of representatives to legislate for the general good."

Sir William Sewall Gardner, M. E. Grand Master of the Grand Encampment was present; installed the Grand Officers, and delivered an able address on the relations existing between the Grand Encampment and the Grand Commanderies. He addressed the presiding officer as "Grand Commander" instead of "Grand Master," as he is elsewhere styled in the proceedings; proved from their own records, that at the formation of the Grand Encampment, Massachusetts had been one of the first and most zealous adherents of that body, and suggested that the question of harmonizing its constitution with the constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States, should receive careful and considerate attention. The address, and a motion to amend the constitution, in accordance with the above suggestions, were referred to a special committee, to report at the next semi-annual assembly.

A beautifully printed pamphlet of over 200 pages contains an abstract of the proceedings of the year ending October 29, 1869.

Semi-annual assembly at Boston, May 28, 1869; Sir Wm. W. Baker, M. E. Grand Master; twenty subordinates represented. The Grand Master, in a brief address, reports having issued dispensations for the formation of two new Encampments, submits for consideration the propriety of entering into mutual representation with other Grand Commanderies, who had bestowed such appointments upon certain Knights of Massachusetts, and acknowledges the receipt of an invitation to the Grand Body to participate in the celebration of the semi-centennial anniversary of St. John's Commandery No. 4, Philadelphia. The invitation was accepted, but it was deemed inexpedient to exchange representatives with other Grand Bodies.

According to the constitution the semi-annual assembly is held for the exemplification of the work, and such other business as may seem to require attention. Heretofore the work has been exemplified by some particular Encampment,

designated for that purpose; and whether well done or indifferently, uniform or otherwise, the exemplifying body was not subjected to criticism, but received a vote of thanks. To remedy this, Grand Master Baker appointed a committee who exemplified the work of the several Orders, and a committee was then appointed to whom the whole matter of work was referred. Sir Charles A. Stott presented a lengthy report on drill, which was adopted, and voted that the subordinates be furnished with copies thereof and directed to conform thereto.

Sir Charles W. Moore, on behalf of the Committee on Nomenclature, presented a very able report, in which the anomalous relation that Massachusetts then held to the Grand Encampment of the United States and sister Grand Commanderies is fully considered, showing that they must either conform to the unanimous action of the other Grand Commanderies, or "accept repudiation of the supreme authority and secession as the only alternative," and submitted the following:

Order: That the constitution of this Grand Encampment be so altered and amended as to conform, in its nomenclature, and in all other respects, to the provisions and requirements of the constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

The report was ordered to be printed and distributed—final action being postponed until the annual meeting. One charter was granted, and the Deputy Grand Master, Sir Benj. Dean, complimented for the ability and discretion with which he discharged the duties devolving upon him during the sickness of Grand Master Baker, in whose affliction the Grand Body sincerely sympathized.

A special assembly was held at Fall River, October 19, 1869, for the purpose of constituting Godfrey De Bouillon Encampment and installing its officers: Grand Master Baker delivering an eloquent address, which contains a historical sketch of the first crusade and the prominent part taken in it by the illustrious Knight whose name had been adopted by the new body.

On the 25th of the same month, another special assembly was held in Boston, to constitute Joseph Warren Encampment and install its officers; and the chronicler remarks, "as the social exercises provided were likely to be somewhat lengthy, the M. E. Grand Master did not deliver an address."

Annual assembly at Providence, October 29, 1869; Sir Wm. W. Baker, M. E. Grand Master; twenty-six subordinates represented. After the reading of the minutes of the last semi-annual assembly, the report of the Committee on Nomenclature was adopted. A committee was then appointed to draft a new constitution, and they immediately submitted one conforming in all respects to the "order" above quoted, which was unanimously adopted. *Laus Deo.*

At the evening session, Sir William Sewall Gardner, M. E. Grand Master of Knights Templar in the United States, was announced and received with the honors due his rank. Grand Master Baker then delivered his annual address, which is an able and interesting document. After stating that death had not invaded their ranks during the past year; that peace and harmony prevail; that the subordinates were never more flourishing and prosperous than now, and giving an interesting account of his official visitations, he says:

In accordance with the report of your committee at the last semi-annual assembly, and which you have to-day so unanimously accepted, thereby conforming to the regulations of the Grand Encampment of the United States, the existence of the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island ceases, and with it ends the twenty-third and last of your Grand Masters.

To-morrow we commence a new life, as a Grand Commandery, and the next occupant of this chair will be your Grand Commander. Titles and names will be changed. The term Encampment, as applied to subordinates, will be unrecognized out of the jurisdiction and remembered only by those within it, and that but for a short time. A new generation will hardly realize how wedded were their predecessors to old names, forms and titles. The less conservative, probably, look upon this institution simply as an element of progress, and recognize only the necessity of keeping abreast of the foremost in the feverish race of life. Yet to many of us—to many of the older fraters of this Grand Encampment—there are many pleasing as well as many mournful recollections, which cluster around it and its older subordinates.

He then gives a brief sketch of the anti-masonic crusade of 1828, stating that there were still members of the Grand Body present, who had shared in the persecution of those times—"one as principal and the other as a witness in one of the most important Masonic trials on record." Those days of trial and tribulation lasted many years, and, as the contumely then heaped upon our institution endeared its members to each other, so he says it increased their affection for the Lodges, Chapters and Encampments, "with their names, styles and titles, and all connected therewith;" and he feelingly remarks:

This is simply a reflex of the views of the parent Grand Body, and accounts for the persistence with which we have clung to the customs of the past. Our predecessors thought, undoubtedly, that the General Grand Body would recede somewhat from its position, and return to the examples as shown by Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Connecticut, Ohio and Virginia. But, one by one, they fell off and joined the more powerful and attractive body. We are now alone. Out of more than thirty State Grand Bodies, Massachusetts and Rhode Island is left alone. Innovation, prosperous, is progress; as rebellion, successful, becomes patriotism. And so it stands with us to-day; and, viewing the situation as Masons and Templars, we yield to the majority, and join, heart and hand, with our sisters throughout the Union, feeling that in maintaining our position we have done no violence to our principles; and, in more fully complying with the regulations of the General Grand Body, have yielded no sentiment of dignity or self-respect.

For myself, I heartily subscribe to the report of your committee, and rejoice at the unanimity with which it is received. There is no sacrifice of right or principle involved. It is not a question of principle, but of opinion.

We cannot agree with Sir Knight Baker that there was no "principle" involved in the question which is now so happily settled; but we can appreciate the "sentiment" that influences the Knights of Massachusetts "in their love for the things and names of old," and tender them our congratulations for surrendering their cherished predilections to secure the unity and harmony of our beloved Order.

There are other matters in this excellent address which require notice. He is of opinion that it is desirable, when possible, to modify the intensity of Masonic titles, and is pleased that the amended constitution is an improvement in this respect. He says the propriety of using "the lofty and bewildering titles in many of the departments of Masonry," even among ourselves, and in the privacy of our meetings, may be questioned; but when bruited abroad in the newspapers, it makes the judicious grieve, and subjects us to ridicule. We agree with him that good taste should lead us to discard all pompous and inflated titles, as far as possible, in public. In this connection he comments upon "the use and misuse of the prænomen *Sir*:" as a title of honor or respect, it is applied to a person, as Sir Thomas, or Sir William; it is also used with propriety

as a prefix to the general name Knight, as Sir Knight, but addressed to a number of Knights collectively, as Sir Knights, he says, is only sanctioned by our institution. Even allowing the propriety of *Sir Knights*, he considers it highly improper to speak of them in the third person, as "the Sir Knights were called to order;" and sustains his objections by references to history.

He dissents from the general practice of giving the accolade, and says:

I have myself, when called upon to perform that duty, and so instructed others, simply struck a slight blow on the left shoulder. Such authorities as I have consulted, I think, are unanimous on that point—a slight tap or stroke of the sword. As we read in Froissart, the charge of the king in conferring the order of chivalry, "*Hanc alternam accipe*," which, literally construed, signifies "receive this blow, but no other." The simplicity of the act commends it to our favor, above the more showy but less impressive custom.

He directs attention to the "public parades and exhibitions" of Commanderies, now becoming so common, and makes the following judicious and well-timed remarks:

Until of late years, unless on occasions of marked importance, parades of Encampments were of rare occurrence, and attracted much attention; but to-day public parades, appearance in civic processions, visitations, camp duty—and all in regalia—are not by any means uncommon; and I would submit whether some limit should not be had to these public appearances. I do not offer this suggestion in any captious spirit, or one that would lead you to infer that any want of propriety had been observed, or that the amenities of the institution had been violated. My point is this: Templar Masonry was never intended for the public gaze; our costume and our drill, until changed into modern military tactics, are inconsistent with street display; and trailing our banners in the dust of public processions, carelessly mixed in with the various elements that compose such an assemblage, was never countenanced by our predecessors. Our names and titles have been so generally assumed by other institutions and societies, that our distinctive character will soon be lost sight of, even in the public estimation.

Notwithstanding the space we have already given to this address, we cannot refrain quoting the following from its closing remarks:

I bespeak for you a continuance of the goodness and mercy of Almighty God, which have been so signally showered upon our institution. May we deserve a continuance of those favors; and let us not be content with merely accomplishing our duties as working members of this institution, but endeavor to improve our opportunities in emulating the examples of our predecessors—one of whose great characteristics was, and one of the avowed objects of our institution is, to cultivate a high tone and standard of courtesy in our intercourse with each other. The chiefest virtue of the Knights of old, a virtue that underlies the three vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, was self-denial. Let it not be forgotten that the virtue of self-denial is the only just and sure foundation of that true courtesy which, compromising no integrity, involving no servility, will, in its constant exercise, raise a Knight to the highest estimation, not only amongst his companions, but what is of more importance, in his own heart.

The reports of the other Grand Officers give interesting details of their official visitations, and, while showing them to have been efficient co-laborers with their chief, afford abundant testimony of the harmonious and prosperous condition of our Order throughout the jurisdiction.

M. E. Grand Master Sir William Sewall Gardner installed the Grand Commander elect; a very complimentary vote of thanks was tendered to the retiring Grand Commander, Sir Wm. W. Baker; and the Grand Recorder acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of fourteen sister Grand Commanderies, our own included.

We close our notice with the following interesting remarks, which appear in the proceedings immediately after the announcement that the Grand Commandery was closed in ample form:

And thus closed one of the most memorable, as well as most remarkable, assemblies ever held by this Grand Body.

It was convened as a Grand Encampment, to which *title* all of its oldest members clung with fond recollection, and the majority as fondly preferred.

Among the permanent members present was one who acquired that right in 1829, another in 1833, and two Past Grand Masters, one of 1835 and the other of 1839, together with five others, seven in all, who presided as Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment. As such, they had loved, honored, and cherished it, and as such they wished, and might have hoped to have relinquished it, with all other earthly things, to their successors.

Great fidelity and strong love for the Grand Body and its nomenclature, was represented by the gray hairs of the aged Knights present, and a great example was set by them, when, in obedience to what was considered for its best interests, and for the harmony of the whole jurisdiction of the United States, they yielded their cherished memories, and unanimously voted to be known as members of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, thus consummating an event alike memorable and remarkable in the annals of Knighthood.

Statistics—Commanderies, 26; Membership, 3428; Knighted, 450.

Sir Benjamin Dean was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Alfred F. Chapman, E. Grand Recorder.

MICHIGAN—A courteous note from the Grand Recorder informs us that the proceedings for 1869 are not yet published, and, as those for 1868 failed to reach us, we compile from several of the reports before us the following synopsis of the

Twelfth annual conclave at Detroit, June 2, 1868; Sir E. D. Benedict, R. E. Grand Commander; seventeen Commanderies represented. In a brief address the Grand Commander announced that he had granted dispensations for the formation of four new Commanderies, and reported our Order in a prosperous condition. He decided that the granting of a charter by the Grand Commandery is legal notice to the subordinates, which are bound to respect the acts of the Grand Body, whether they receive the printed proceedings or not—in which we fully concur. The work had been compiled, and a copy furnished to each subordinate. This conflicts with a decision of Grand Master Palmer; but it did not produce the uniformity expected, for it was found that some copies contained clerical errors, and a Committee of One was appointed to revise all the copies, "and compare them with the original." A committee was appointed to make arrangements for holding "a field encampment" of all the Commanderies in the State, during the summer. The representatives of Commanderies chartered at the conclave were, by resolution, permitted to vote. With Sir Knight Simons, of New York, we "dissent from this practice as having no color of right or law, and as a violation of the statutes of the body permitting it."

Statistics—Commanderies, 21; Membership, 1003; Knighted, 241.

Sir John M. Armstrong was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Oliver Bourke re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

MINNESOTA—Third annual conclave at Winona, June 24, 1866; Sir James M. Cole, V. E. Deputy Grand Commander; four Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander, Sir E. A. Ames, was absent in California, but sent in a brief address announcing that he had granted a dispensation to form a new Commandery. One charter was granted. Sir S. Y. McMasters presented a brief report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of nine Grand Commanderies, our own included. He regrets so few have been received, and can see no reason, with the present mail facilities, "why the *picket guard* should be forgotten."

Fourth annual conclave at Mankato, June 24, 1869; Sir James M. Cole, R. E. Grand Commander; five Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander did not prepare an address, as his official acts had been limited to attending the meeting of the Grand Encampment, and granting a dispensation to a Commandery which had lost its charter by fire. We hope this way of doing things will not become fashionable. We hold it to be the duty of the Grand Commander to present a written report not only of his official acts, but also stating the general condition of the Order in his jurisdiction and making such recommendations as he may deem necessary for its welfare.

The usual routine of business was transacted; several representatives of sister Grand Commanderies were received and welcomed as such; the Grand Commander was authorized to make similar appointments, and Sir J. Q. A. Fellows has been appointed to represent the Grand Body near our Grand Asylum. A Committee on Tactics and Drill was appointed, to report at the next annual conclave. A very brief report on Foreign Correspondence, again from the pen of Sir S. Y. McMasters, notices the proceedings of thirteen Grand Commanderies—Louisiana not among the number. Brief as the report is, it shows that Sir Knight McMasters could make an interesting one if he would only try.

Statistics—Commanderies, 5; Membership, 341; Knighted, 40.

Sir E. D. B. Porter was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir George A. Savory, re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

MISSISSIPPI—It is with unfeigned pleasure that we acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of this Grand Commandery. The last proceedings published are those of 1861, and the present efficient Grand Recorder states that it was the desire of the Grand Body to have the proceedings of that year republished, together with those of such annual conclaves as had been held since that time. The only records in his possession, however, are a list of the officers elected and a few constitutional amendments adopted at the annual conclave of 1869, and as they are of no general interest we take up the record of the

Annual conclave at Jackson, January 22, 1870; Sir John K. Fulson, R. E. Grand Commander; six Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander states he has no flattering report to make of the condition of Templar Masonry in his jurisdiction; no application for the formation of new Commanderies had been received, and but few accessions had been made to the ranks of those already established; some of the subordinates had ceased to meet, and others have forfeited their charters by failing to hold their regular conclaves and elect officers. Under these depressing circumstances, he remarks:

I regret to say that from my observation, the zeal for the Knightly Orders seems to be on the decline. Why is this? There is nothing purer or better calculated to make man live as he should live, to be prepared to meet his Maker

and Judge, than the important and impressive lessons taught in our rituals. I greatly fear that we do not live up to our profession as Templars; that we do not let our light so shine before men, as to induce others, seeing our good works, to glorify our Father in heaven.

Although the business transacted was of a local character, it shows an earnest desire to promote the interests of our Order. With this view, all dues of the subordinates were remitted except for the years 1868 and 1869, and it was resolved that a general gathering of the Sir Knights should be held at Jackson, on the 24th of June next. We hope this will be attended with beneficial results, and stimulate them to advance the Banner of the Cross. The representative system was adopted, and resolutions of thanks tendered the retiring Grand Commander.

Sir William S. Patton presented the report on Foreign Correspondence; part of it was intended for the last meeting of the Grand Body, and was found among the "rubbish;" and during the past year the proceedings of only three Grand Commanderies had been received. Notwithstanding this, the report gives a notice of most of the Grand Bodies, and is written in a knightly and courteous manner; our own proceedings receiving favorable and extended mention. A deep feeling of regret pervades the report that no notice is taken of Mississippi by the various Committees on Correspondence, and referring to our own he says:

Mississippi again left out in the cold to wander about the swamps of Pearl River, as that was the last place the Grand Commandery of Mississippi was heard of. As we can find no mention of our Grand Commandery in any of the exchanges received; we will here take occasion to mention for the benefit of our sister Grand Commanderies, that there is such a Body known in the State of Mississippi; it is a live institution, vital in all its parts; has a head located in North Mississippi; the veins and arteries extending through all the different portions of the State, full of life and vigor; receives communications from the various Grand Commanderies throughout the Union; has one of its members appointed to respond to the proceedings and communications in a document which is called a Report on Foreign Correspondence, which we can testify has been faithfully attended to for the last two years, but "nary time" do we see Mississippi mentioned in any foreign report.

Without attaching censure to any one in particular for the non-publication of their proceedings, he says "there is a fault somewhere," and inquires "who is to blame?" The answer is found in the address of the Grand Commander: "There has been no printed proceedings of our Grand Body for the last nine years, owing to the depleted state of the treasury to pay for the work."

We sincerely hope that the cloud, which hung so long over our sister State, has passed away for ever. The bountiful harvest of the past season has in a great measure relieved the general distress, and we trust that a succession of them will give a greater degree of prosperity to Mississippi than it ever enjoyed in its palmiest days. Hoping that time may soon come, we send the Sir Knights a cordial greeting and pray that their cup of joy and gladness may be filled to overflowing.

Statistics—Commanderies, 6; Membership, 197; Knighted, 34.

Sir Charles T. Bond was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir J. L. Power elected E. Grand Recorder.

MISSOURI—Ninth annual conclave at St. Louis, October 5, 1869; Sir James F. Aglar, R. E. Grand Commander; eight Commanderies represented.

The annual address is a clear business paper, detailing the official acts of the

Grand Commander. He had granted four dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies, visited all the subordinates in the jurisdiction, and reports them as "being in very good condition, and the numbers of most of them daily on the increase." In a case where a minister of the Gospel received the Orders of Knighthood, and, at a subsequent meeting the Commandery returned him the fee in full, on the statement of a member that he was "an object of charity," the Grand Commander ordered the fee to be paid back and re-deposited in the treasury, as the transaction was in violation of the statutes. He appears to have the military fever as "high" as his predecessor, and recommends that the various Commanderies in the State should, once in each year, "go into a regular encampment together, subject to the discipline and regulation of a military camp;" and adds:

I think it necessary for the credit of our Order that we should be familiar with the actual duties of a soldier, and I look upon a camp of this kind as of the utmost importance for the future benefit and prosperity of our Order, for in this age of increasing infidelity we know not how soon we may be called upon to wield our swords on the battle-field in defence of the Christian religion.

We confess that the reasons assigned do not convince us of either the "necessity" or the "importance" of holding such encampments. The Grand Body, however, thought differently, and a resolution was adopted making it obligatory upon all the subordinates to go into camp once a year, and the time fixed for the encampment was Ascension Day, 1870, at Columbia.

Four charters were granted; representatives from several Grand Commanderies were received and welcomed, among them Sir George Frank Gouley, as representative of Louisiana; and a resolution was adopted making it imperative upon the members or representatives to the Grand Body to appear, at its future conclaves, in fatigue uniform.

The Grand Recorder, Sir George Frank Gouley, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. He had before him the proceedings of the Grand Encampment and twenty-two Grand Commanderies, Louisiana for 1869 included. He notices, with knightly courtesy, the many encomiums bestowed on his Grand Commandery for the hospitalities extended to the Sir Knights attending the late triennial session of the Grand Encampment; but his "voice is still for war" against the A. and A. Rite. After the very general expression of opinion against the position assumed by Missouri on this question, we deem it unnecessary to take any further notice of it.

Statistics—Commanderies, 14; Membership, 507; Knighted, 77.

Sir James F. Aglar, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—Annual conclave at Concord, September 29, 1868; Sir Charles A. Tufts, R. E. Grand Commander; seven chartered Commanderies and two under dispensation represented.

The annual address gives a brief detail of the official visitations of the Grand Commander, and shows that our Order is in a flourishing condition. He granted permission to one of the subordinates to hold an encampment of the Knights Templar of the State; six Commanderies were represented on the occasion and remained in camp three days, and, by invitation, the Grand Commander with several of the Grand Officers were present. He "inspected and reviewed the

battalion," and, being delighted at the true military precision with which all the details were carried out, he recommends that all the subordinates be ordered to hold a similar encampment during the ensuing July. The suggestion was adopted, and it was provided that the Grand Commandery should assume the management and expenses thereof, and assess each subordinate, *pro rata*, upon its numerical strength for the expenses incurred.

Two charters were granted. A special committee having prepared a ritual, a copy of it was issued to each of the subordinates by the Grand Commander, and it was adopted as the work of the jurisdiction until otherwise ordered;—but it was also recommitted to the committee for revision. Sir William Barrett, who represented the Grand Body at the late triennial session of the Grand Encampment, submitted an interesting report on the pageantry and festivities which characterized that event. The same Sir Knight and Sir Horace Chase presented their credentials as representatives of the Grand Commanderies of Illinois and Missouri, which were placed on file; but it was considered inexpedient to enter into the system of mutual representation. At the conclave of 1869, however, this action was reversed; the representatives were received with knightly honors, and the Grand Commander empowered to make similar appointments.

Annual conclave at Manchester, September 28, 1869; Sir Henry O. Kent, R. E. Grand Commander; eight Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander, having visited most of the Commanderies, reports that they are generally in a healthy and prosperous condition. He decided that a Commander cannot resign after being installed, and that in case of his permanent absence, the next officer succeeds to the command. The greater portion of the address is devoted to "the military encampment," which was held August 17—20th, at Centre Harbor, on the shores of Lake Winnepissiogee. In accordance with the resolution adopted at the previous conclave, a general order was promulgated, ordering the several Commanderies to go into camp for three days, and all the necessary preparations were made in full confidence of general acquiescence. But one Commandery passed resolutions expressing the "serious objection" of its members at being called out; another "voted not to attend" the encampment. As these resolutions called in question the power of the Grand Body to issue such orders, the Grand Commander wrote to the two subordinates, assuring them "that there was no intention, when the vote was passed, to trench upon the reserved rights of any Commandery;" and at the same time asserting the authority of the Grand Commandery, referring to their obligations to obey its edicts, and hoping they would rescind their resolutions. The recusants, however, returned no answer, and it becoming evident that an attempt to enforce the order would lead to open resistance, the Grand Officers very wisely abandoned the compulsory and adopted the voluntary system. Returns from the different Commanderies indicating that out of the seven hundred Sir Knights in the State, full three hundred would obey the order, or volunteer for the three days, arrangements were made and contracts entered into for the accommodation of that number.

The encampment was accordingly held. After a highly poetical description of the beautiful scenery which surrounded the camp, the Grand Commander says:

The routine of camp life was adhered to. Reveille, guard mount, company drill, battalion drill, dress parade, and review, were all observed in accordance

with the regulations of the army of the United States and Upton's infantry tactics. The camp was laid out as for a regiment of infantry, and throughout the duration of the encampment, commendable attention to orders prevailed.

The encampment was held "for the purpose of military discipline, knightly exercise and social relaxation;" the result is summed up by the Grand Commander as follows:

As an occasion agreeable to the participants, the encampment was a success, and we may, perhaps, with reason conclude that good will result from it. As a military encampment, held in obedience to competent authority, it cannot be said that it met the expectations of the Grand Officers, or that it was in point of numbers, what it should have been. I should be derelict to my duty, did I omit to state the fact, that in response to orders issued by competent authority, but about one-third the actual strength of the Order responded; that North Star and Sullivan were so slightly represented as to allow of no distinct organization, and that Hugh DePayens was not represented at all, and that as a result of this failure, a considerable debt remains to be provided for from the scanty funds or revenues of the Order.

I indulge in but a single reflection, and this made in a spirit of fraternal regard for every Commandery and Knight. It is this: Each Knight when obligated, vows to obey all due summons sent him from the Grand Commandery; and I fail to perceive how the individual and wholesale absence at the encampment held August 17-20th can be made to accord with the vows of the Templars of New Hampshire; and further, that until a cordial spirit of acquiescence in any decree promulgated, and generous emulation to meet its requirements, is generally observable throughout the jurisdiction whatever is done in the way of voluntary and independent excursions, it will hardly be judicious to attempt a formal military encampment in accordance with orders, with sanguine hope of success.

We make no comment, as our views on the subject will be found in the notice of New York, which was written before the proceedings under review came to hand.

The usual routine of business was transacted; the Grand Treasurer was authorized to borrow, on the credit of the Grand Body, a sum sufficient to meet the deficiency of the expenses of the encampment at Centre Harbor; and the ritual again recommitted to the committee for further revision.

Sir William Barrett presented an interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies are reviewed in a knightly and courteous manner. Noticing that the proceedings of his Grand Body for 1867 had not been received by ourselves and others, he says: "This continued complaint, occurring in nearly every report, is evidence of neglect or carelessness on the part of those whose duty it is to transmit our proceedings to sister Grand Commanderies." This gentle reminder has evidently done good.

Statistics—Commanderies, 9; Membership, 757; Knighted, 94.

Sir Henry O. Kent, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Herace Chase, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

NEW JERSEY—Eleventh annual conclave at Trenton, September 7, 1869; Sir John Woolverton, R. E. Grand Commander; ten Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is confined to matters of local interest. He reports our Order enjoying a high state of prosperity—the subordinates being crowded with work, and the material offering of a superior quality, with peace and harmony prevailing. He was unable to attend the triennial meeting of the Grand Encampment, but had made official visits to a number of the subordi-

nates. He granted dispensations for the formation of two new Commanderies, and also to several subordinates to ballot for candidates and confer the Orders without waiting the time required by the constitution—a practice “more honored in the breach than the observance.” He was present at the semi-centennial anniversary of St. John's Commandery No. 4, at Philadelphia, June 15, 1869, and says “a more imposing pageant, or a more brilliant display of Templar Masonry, perhaps, was never witnessed on this continent.” He recommends uniformity of work, and concludes by exhorting the Sir Knights to continue true to the tenets of their profession, adding:

It is true the work we have to do in fulfilling our high mission differs from that which devolved upon those who sustained the dignity of our Order in its early existence. We, nevertheless, have great battles to fight, and great victories to win; not indeed with carnal weapons, nor over enemies marshalled in military array, or clad in burnished armor. It is against the enemies of virtue, morality and the Christian religion that we are summoned to contend, and although we meet them not on fields of blood and carnage, they are none the less real, and to successfully contend against them requires that we, Sir Knights, should possess and exercise the same undying courage and daring that animated the hearts of the valiant Templars who, in the early days of our Order, guided and guarded the weary pilgrims through their journeyings to the Holy Sepulchre.

Two charters were granted; a committee on work appointed; a number of representatives of other Grand Commanderies received and welcomed; a committee appointed to prepare suitable resolutions expressive of the gratitude of the Grand Commandery for the knightly hospitality and generous courtesy extended it by St. John's Commandery No. 4, of Philadelphia, at its semi-centennial anniversary; in relation to voting by proxy, the statutes were amended by the addition of the following words, “but no duality of vote in one person's right shall be admissible;” and, we are pleased to add, the following resolution adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Body discontinue the practice of admitting the representatives of newly chartered subordinate bodies to full powers and prerogatives, until the bodies have been regularly instituted and their officers installed.

A large number of distinguished Sir Knights from other jurisdictions were present during the conclave.

The Grand Recorder, Sir Thomas J. Corson, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies and the Grand Encampment are reviewed in his own peculiar style. A true son of Momus, he permits his pen to riot in fun, he jests with proprieties, and varnishes his satire with a flow of genial humor. He abounds in personalities, and is an inveterate punster—but many of his puns are excruciating, and his “poetical” effusions prove him a lineal descendant of Sir Thomas the Rhymers. No matter what the subject of his remarks may be, his laughter-loving propensity soon gets the better of his discretion, and he flies off at a tangent to perpetrate a joke. Some of them are almost too broad for insertion in a Masonic paper, and, while a sprinkling of wit or humor gives zest and piquancy to a report, we question the propriety of either being made its prominent feature.

Grand Commander Woolverton having been unable to attend the meeting of the Grand Encampment, he deputed our friend Sir Thomas to make the pilgrimage to St. Louis in his stead. His report shows that he faithfully discharged

the duties devolving upon him on that occasion, and, in appreciation of the overwhelming hospitalities extended by the Sir Knights of St. Louis, he remarks: "Why, the hearts of those fellows are as large—as large—yes, as large as their ladies' feet, and as warm as love can make them." He is decidedly opposed to the hostile attitude assumed by Sir Knight Gouley toward the A. and A. Rite, and quotes with approval the remarks of Sir Knights Langridge, Simons, and others on the subject. He holds fast to the law of strict physical qualifications, and his views, on all questions relating to the interests of our Order, are in the main correct.

Our proceedings at the annual conclave of 1869 receive a knightly and courteous notice, but he is not satisfied with our special conclaves being published as an appendix. As a specimen of his general style, we quote his remarks thereon—merely remarking that they are very mild when compared with others in the same book:

In accordance with the usual hind-forward way that our Louisiana fraters have of doing business, the proceedings of the special conclave of April, 1868, are placed *after* those of February, 1869—in fact sandwiched between the latter and the proceedings of another special conclave of May, 1869. Where was that legal luminary bright, Hornor, that he would allow such a general mixing up of matters? The conclave of 1868 was held to assist the Grand Lodge in consecrating the Masonic Cemetery, whereat proper and imposing ceremonies were performed.

The special conclave of May, 1869, was held—for what do you suppose? Because Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, Deputy Grand Master Gr. Encampment U. S. (whose initials almost exhaust the alphabet, and leave Pierson of Minnesota entirely in the shade), had graciously decided that the Grand Commandery of Louisiana might receive the appointment of representatives from other States. Whereupon, Sirs S. M. Todd, J. C. Batchelor, and J. P. Hornor (who had almost expired between a shiver and a sweat, lest he might not have a chance to "orate" and be received with honors), presented their credentials as representatives from different States. To all of which we quietly remark, that they have queer fellows "way down South."

Sir Knight Corson was present at the semi-centennial anniversary of St. John's Commandery No. 4, at Philadelphia, and appends to his review of Pennsylvania a notice of the doings on that occasion. He says the celebration was a perfect success; "not less than twenty-four Grand Commanderies were represented, and also the Grand Encampment of the United States, and the Grand Commandery of New Brunswick, Dominion of Canada." Over three thousand Sir Knights were in the procession, and for the first time in its history the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, through its Grand Master, Sir Richard Vaux, extended the "right hand of welcome" to Templars. In the evening there was an oration and other "social exercises" at the Academy of Music, and we quote the description which Sir Thomas gives of this portion of the festival as a specimen of his talent for burlesque:

In the evening a reception was held at the Academy of Music. From pit to dome, valor and beauty packed the vast edifice. It would be folly to attempt to describe the scene. Fair ladies and valiant Knights—sweet music and gay plumes—all, all made such a kaleidoscopic display that the brain was bewildered and the senses entranced, and one was lost in indescribable voluptuousness of joy and pleasure supreme.

Of course the inevitable Richard made a speech here—to the reporters, for nobody else attended to it. We give a specimen of his sesquipedalian octosyllabic style. He commences thus:

"The emotional nature of man, unless governed by an idealistic power, wastes itself in follies. Along the trackway of history, written or traditional, the student is spell-bound by the wonderful attractiveness of those ruins which commemorate the triumphs of the emotional conjoined with the ideal." And so on for an hour.

Grand Master Gardner was to have responded as follows, but broke down by having his jaw dislocated on the second sentence. Still he very kindly permitted us to see his MSS., from which we make the subjoined choice extract:

"A coincidence between the association of ideas, and the order or succession of events or phenomena, according to the relation of cause and effect, and in whatever is subsidiary, or necessary to realize, approximate and extend such coincidence; understanding, by the relation of cause and effect, that order or succession, the discovery or development of which empowers an intelligent being, by means of one event or phenomenon, or by a series of given events or phenomena, to anticipate the occurrence of another event or phenomenon, or of a required series of events or phenomena, and to summon them into existence, and employ their instrumentality in the gratification of his wishes, or in the accomplishment of his purposes."

There is one man, now on exhibition, who claims to have read the whole speech of Sir Vaux, but no one has yet been found who pretends to understand it. As for ourselves, we have recently paid so little attention to Choctaw, and our knowledge of Sanscrit has become so dull, while we have not had time to study closely the science of "gibberish," that we at once "throw up the sponge," and acknowledge ourself fairly beaten on the 124th round.

All honor to the Knights of St. John's, who have made themselves famous throughout the country for their unparalleled hospitality and unequalled courtesy. At Baltimore we were astonished, at St. Louis we were amazed, but at Philadelphia we were astounded.

In our opinion this is going entirely too far; we could appreciate it in a comic almanac, but we must say that it seems strangely out of place in a report to a Masonic Grand Body.

Statistics—Commanderies, 11; Membership, 487; Knighted, 157.

Sir Isaac A. Nichols was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Thomas J. Corson re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

NEW YORK—Fifty-sixth annual conclave at Buffalo, October 5, 1869; Sir Henry C. Preston, V. E. Deputy Grand Commander, presiding; thirty-one Commanderies represented.

Owing to a severe storm which had prevailed for several days, the Grand Commander, Sir John A. Lefferts, was unable to attend the annual conclave, but the address, which he would have read had he been present, is published with the proceedings. He states that harmony, peace and good will have reigned throughout the jurisdiction, and that, "through the singular unanimity of feeling," but little demand had been made upon him in his official capacity. He granted dispensations for the formation of four new Commanderies, and in reference thereto remarks:

When I first entered this body, some years ago, I heard the sentiment from the lips of those whom I had learned to look upon as the sages of the Order, that it should not grow too fast, and that a spirit of strict conservatism should rule the actions of those entrusted with its powers.

I humbly dissented then, and have had no cause to change my opinion since. I believe the bold policy is the one to win; let us push forward the banners of our Order, and if we may not lead in the foremost ranks, let us at least stand shoulder to shoulder with those who are fighting the battle of the right.

I have granted these dispensations, leaving it to the Body whose servant I am, to say whether warrants shall be issued or not. At the same time I frankly

admit that I should have granted others had application been made, being actuated by a strong and fervent belief that Templar Masonry is destined to be a great power in our land.

Its code of ethics are second to none; its teachings are an epitome of true religious faith; its social features exert an influence not known in other bodies, binding us heart and hand together; while its military character renders it at once attractive to a people fond of show and display.

Time was when the Templar with diffidence appeared in public with his regalia. But how is it now? With bands playing and banners floating on the air, he marches boldly along the crowded thoroughfare, amid the plaudits of the lookers-on, to his destined object.

We rather admire the self-sufficient style of the above, but regret the address was not before the Grand Body, as we would like to know its opinion of the proposition to ignore the conservative principle of our institution. Besides, if we understand the R. E. Sir Knight correctly, he considers the military character of our Order its prominent feature, and regards the "show and display" which secures the applause of the multitude essential to our success. This opinion appears to be prevalent in some quarters, but, should it be generally adopted, the time is not distant when "Ichabod" will be written over the portals of our Asylums.

In October, 1868, when on a visit to Poughkeepsie to constitute a new Commandery, Grand Commander Lefferts met with a painful accident, which subjected him to long confinement, and debarred him from visiting the subordinates under his charge; but the Sir Knights, to whom he assigned the duty of supervising the several districts into which the State had been divided, report the Commanderies in their respective divisions in a flourishing condition. After giving a list of the Sir Knights appointed to represent New York near other Grand Commanderies, he states that he had extended this idea by appointing Sir Albert G. Goodall "General Foreign Representative near all Grand Bodies of Masonic Knighthood." As this distinguished Sir Knight is at present in Europe, it is to be hoped the appointment will be attended with beneficial results. A letter has been received from him enclosing copies of the "treatise" [*query*, "treaties"] of alliance lately ratified by the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, with the "Orders of the Temple" in Scotland and Ireland. The articles stipulate that these bodies shall not infringe upon the jurisdictional rights of each other, and provide for the appointment of commissioners to prepare statutes, laws, forms, rituals and other matters to be adopted and observed in common in the respective jurisdictions, with the view of securing greater unity of purpose, concert of action, and harmony. At the date of the letter (London, Sept. 23, 1869,) the commissioners had not reported, but Sir Knight Goodall states that, from what he could learn, important changes would be proposed and probably adopted.

Under escort of Morton Commandery, the Grand Commandery of New York visited Philadelphia to assist in the celebration of the semi-centennial anniversary of St. John's Commandery No. 4, of that city, and in reference to this, R. E. Sir Knight Lefferts says :

Owing to inability to make a long march, I did not appear in the procession, but viewed it from a good position, and can truly say it was a grand and imposing affair, well calculated to strengthen and promote the good of the Order. At least I know of one Commandery which received an accession of nineteen members immediately after this parade.

Are we correct in inferring from this that he considers such celebrations as "calculated to strengthen and promote the good of the Order," only so far as they bring recruits to our ranks?

He pays a feeling tribute to the memory of Sir Charles H. Platt, Grand Pre-late; suitable resolutions were adopted, \$500 appropriated to erect a monument to his memory, and a page set apart to record his knightly virtues.

The Grand Commander closes his report with an interesting essay, in which he draws a parallel between chivalry and its teachings in the olden time, and that of the present day. As we have noticed portions of the address which, we think, place too high an estimate upon the military character of our Order, we take pleasure in stating that this essay breathes throughout the pure principles inculcated in our Asylums. Witness the following from its conclusion:

Yes, the spirit of chivalry still lives. We war not, as did the Knights of old, with axe, and mace, and lance; whose law was sturdy blows and whose demand for justice was made at the point of the sword. No; our weapons are honor, truth and integrity. We tap gently at the door of the heart, and seek to gain admission there by the law of love and kindness.

The tree planted in Palestine eighteen hundred years ago, nurtured by saints and watered by the blood of martyrs, has thriven well. Its roots are now ramifying every part of the habitable globe, and under its sheltering branches all may come. It has borne its fruits, for amid its purple foliage may be seen, on its lower branches, asylums for the deaf, dumb and blind; and higher up we shall discover others for the aged and friendless and the poor cast-away; still further on are homes for the widow and orphan; and as we ascend amid the foliage of richer hue, we find the whole crowned with an apple, not of discord, but a golden one, whose heart is of pure crystal, enclosed in which is the law of Him whose cross we bear.

Let us, then, as Christian Knights, ever keep before the mind the vows we have taken. The widow, the orphan, the needy and helpless, are around us on every hand; and let us, then, be ever ready to extend to them the protecting hand, and let us put behind us the vices of the day, so that our lives may stand forth as the exponent of that high character to which, as Knights Templar, we lay claim.

Four charters were granted, and the business transacted was purely local.

Sir John W. Simons presented the report on Correspondence, in which he reviews the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Commanderies. Like all papers which emanate from his pen, it is thorough and interesting, and while "speaking out in meeting," he does so with the true courtesy that becomes a gallant Knight. Referring to the general condition of our Order, he says:

We are fast approaching uniformity in all the leading ideas of the institution, and demonstrating that we can be united in one general organization, without losing sight of our domestic rights and interests, and without in any way subjecting ourselves to the dangers which so many worthy Knights seem to dread as likely to be the result of centralization.

Viewing the steady progress of the past twenty years, and the [marvelous change that has been wrought in that time, by steady pursuit of objects that have been, or are being realized, we are justified in the belief that we shall reach a moral attitude infinitely beyond the wildest dreams of the founders of the Order in this country, and worthy to be written on the page of history side by side with the achievements of the valiant Knights whose name we bear, and whose magnanimous deeds we seek to emulate.

Let us hope that the zeal and devotion of the past may be continued in the future, and that with serried ranks, we may continue to move steadily forward in the continuous battle we have undertaken to wage.

He is strongly opposed to permitting the officers of a Commandery, whose

charter has just been granted, to take their seats as members of the Grand Commandery; he hopes to see the representative system approved by every Grand Commandery, so that when one meets all the rest may be represented; he is opposed to the practice of granting dispensations to confer the Orders in less than the constitutional time, and regards the attack of Sir Knight Gouley upon the A. and A. Rite as eminently unjust.

Our own proceedings receive a full share of courteous notice. In common with us, he deplures the loss of his old friend, Sir Willis P. Coleman, and testifies to his eminent worth as a man and a Mason.

He takes exceptions to our remarks on tactics and drill, and says:

We are not aware that any one proposes to make fuss and feathers a feature, and we think the remarks we have seen on this topic somewhat disingenuous, because they appear to convert our desire to maintain the military character of our Order into a wish to follow all the changes of the Regular Army; to make fraternity subservient to feathers, and to kick up a condemned fuss generally.

Far be it from us to attribute such motives to our friend Simons; but we think there is danger of carrying the "drill mania" too far, and as we endorsed the opinion of Sir Knight Drummond, of Maine, we quote and adopt his explanation:

Our remarks last year have in some instances been misunderstood; but we do not think they bear the construction, that we are opposed to tactics. We said the reverse; but we would avoid the extreme: We may appear in public or we may not: if we do not, there is less need of tactics: but if we do, and such is the almost universal practice, we should have enough of military *tactics* and *drill* to perform all necessary evolutions; but what we object to is, the acquiring of a proficiency in tactics and drill beyond what is necessary, for the purpose of making a public display of that proficiency.

Having settled this point, we proceed with Sir John's comments. He says:

We protest against opening a Commandery by a mere tap of the gavel, and closing it by virtue of the high power and authority of its Commander to dispense with all ceremony. We incline to the notion that the forms of the Commandery, being military, should be executed with promptness and decision, which they never can nor will be, unless there be in officers and Knights sufficient spirit to learn and practice the school of the soldier, so that when, for instance, the command "Right Face" is given, the Sir Knights may all turn to the right, and not, as we have more than once seen, one portion to the right, another to the left, and the remainder all the way round. There should be reason in all things, and, among others, a reasonable attention to drill and equipment, though a Commandery should never have a visitor, nor parade beyond the limits of its own hall.

We subscribe to every word of the above. Commenting upon the remarks of Sir Knight Newby, of Indiana, Sir John says "our public exhibitions should be as few and far between as possible," but he thinks when we appear before the world we should be in position to know "hay-foot" from "straw-foot," or better yet, to march with just as much precision as the famous New York Seventh Regiment; and remarks:

Soldiering is no more their trade than it is ours. When they take off their uniforms they become citizens, as we do under similar circumstances. Their drill is governed by certain rules, and so is ours, and we know of no reason why we should not be as expert in our drill as our fellow-citizens of the militia are in theirs. Moreover, however much we may affect to despise the opinion of the profane, it is very certain that the public favor is essential to our prosperity.

Here is the gist of the whole matter. Volunteer companies are composed of

men who have a predilection for the profession 'of the soldier, and devote their leisure to acquiring a knowledge of military tactics. This is the sole object for which such companies are formed; popular applause is essential to their prosperity, and, as soon as they have acquired a proficiency in the drill, they are desirous of showing that proficiency to the world—hence their public parades, excursions, etc. But Masonry was never intended for public show, nor did the founders of American Templarism ever dream that its success depended upon conciliating the opinion of the profane. Our ranks are not recruited from the populace, and the military character of our Order is merely incidental to the more important work of the Asylum. So far as tactics are necessary to perform that work, they should be performed with promptness and precision, and it is incumbent upon the officers of a Commandery that each new made member of the Order should be instructed to this extent. But beyond this, and performing escort duty to the Grand Lodge, or at the funeral of a deceased companion, we consider the study of tactics entirely unnecessary. Few Sir Knights who attend to their duties in Lodge, Chapter and Commandery have either time or inclination to make tactics a study. Yet, if the members of a Commandery desire to acquire a complete military education, we can see no objection—all we claim is that it is not required and not necessary.

Nevertheless, we look upon the system of "field encampments" as having been instituted for the purpose of giving instruction, not so much in the drill of the Commandery, as in tactics and manœuvres calculated for street display. Granting that such gatherings may promote social pleasure and strengthen the bonds of fraternity, they seem more peculiarly adapted to give an undue importance to the military feature of our Order. As a novelty, the idea appears to have become popular in some quarters, and Grand Bodies are hurried along with the current without reflecting upon the consequences which may result. In one jurisdiction, which covers a greater extent of territory than New York, it has been made *obligatory* upon all the subordinates to meet together once a year at a given point, and spend six days in camp under strict military regime! Does Templar Masonry require men to leave their homes and business a week at a time for any such purpose? Not, if we understand it correctly; and we doubt if an edict making such attendance obligatory, can be enforced without weakening the authority of the Grand Body and disturbing the harmony of the jurisdiction.

The idea of such encampments, however, strikes Sir Knight Simons "favorably," yet he says: "We cannot recommend it to our own Sir Knights, because the great extent of our jurisdiction would involve an expense for travel beyond the value of the results to be hoped for." This is a correct view to take of the subject; and when, in addition to the expense, the interruptions of business and the discomforts resulting to families are taken into consideration, it will be seen that the system carries with it the seeds of its own decay, and we feel satisfied that as soon as the novelty wears off it will speedily be abandoned.

Statistics—Commanderies, 41; Membership, 4737; Knighted, 784.

Sir Henry C. Preston was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Robert Macoy re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

OHIO—Proceedings of 1868 not received. From the reports on Correspondence to other Grand Commanderies we compile a brief synopsis to make our record complete.

Twenty-sixth annual conclave at Dayton, October 16, 1868; Sir Heman Ely, R. E. Grand Commander; fourteen Commanderies represented. One dispensation was granted; and it was announced that the first volume of the reprint of their proceedings had been published. Sir Knight Drummond says:

This conclave marked twenty-five years from the organization of the Grand Commandery, and during the year Mount Vernon No. 1, celebrated its semi-centennial anniversary. The proceedings are published with those of the Grand Commandery and are of much interest. It was the first Commandery established by the Grand Encampment U. S. A., and the first west of the Alleghany mountains. Happy allusion to these facts is made in the address of the Grand Commander.

Twenty-seventh annual conclave at Cleveland, October 14, 1869; Sir Heman Ely, R. E. Grand Commander; thirteen Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander's address, although devoted to local matters, is of great interest and shows a prosperous condition of our Order. He states that five years ago, but little proficiency in the drill had been made by any of the subordinates, and that there was no uniformity of costume. Now this is all changed: within the last year, especially, proficiency in drill has been attained; and by a regulation adopted in 1866, requiring every Sir Knight to provide himself with the costume adopted by the Grand Commandery within three months from the time of being created a Templar, uniformity in this respect is being rapidly accomplished. He granted six dispensations and refused three applications for new Commanderies. Several Sir Knights having received appointments as representatives of other Grand Commanderies, he expresses his opinion on this subject at length. He considers the effect of such an appointment as "simply an expression of friendship and knightly courtesy, conveyed by the Grand Commander, issuing the patent, to the distinguished Knight receiving the appointment," and delegating him to convey to the Grand Body to which he is accredited the knightly greetings of the Body he represents. He looks upon it as "a manifest impropriety" for a Sir Knight holding the office of Grand Commander to accept such an appointment, or to make a similar appointment of one in another State holding the same office, and assigns as a reason that "any thing which, by implication, even has the appearance of bargain and sale of Masonic honor, should be most studiously avoided in all departments of Masonry." Acting upon this principle he declined several appointments tendered him, and, while viewing such appointments as a high honor, he dissents from the practice of conferring upon the appointees the rank of a Past Grand Officer in the Grand Commandery from whose Grand Officer the credentials emanate, unless the right thus to create members of the Grand Body is conceded to him by the constitution. This opinion and the following decisions were concurred in by the Grand Commandery:

A Sir Knight cannot be an active member of two Commanderies at the same time.

A dimit must be granted when applied for, or charges preferred.

Six charters were granted; a committee appointed to revise the ritual, and the Illinois system of tactics and drill adopted.

Sir Robert Gwynn presented a very full and able report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of nineteen Grand Commanderies, our own included, receive courteous mention. He says his remarks in relation to the

Council degrees have been misunderstood, and that he does not claim or desire that they should be made prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood, "as those degrees are now arranged in a majority of the Grand Jurisdictions." He desires, however, that "they should be placed in their proper chronological order, when they would naturally become, not only prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood, but also for the Chapter degrees as well." He is opposed to Sir Knight Gouley's attack upon the A. and A. Rite, and, after quoting the opinions of a number of distinguished Sir Knights on the subject, adds:

Thus it will be seen, Sir Knights, that in all the Grand Jurisdictions in which this controversy, introduced by Sir Knight Gouley and fostered by the Sir Knights of his jurisdiction, has been noticed at all, it has been condemned as uncalled for and mischievous, and its arguments refuted and overthrown. In some few of the proceedings which have come under the observation of your committee, the matter has been referred to without comment, in others it has been ignored entirely, but in none is Sir Knight Gouley's position sustained, in no one is commendation of his course afforded.

Sir Heman Ely, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John D. Caldwell, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

PENNSYLVANIA—Sixteenth annual conclave at Erie, June 8, 1869; Sir John Vallerchamp, R. E. Grand Commander; thirty Commanderies represented.

The annual address shows the Grand Commander to have been a zealous and efficient officer. The number of official visitations reported by him is very large, and at all of them he either conferred the Orders or exemplified the work. The attention which is paid to official visitations in Pennsylvania may be judged from the following recapitulation of the work performed by Sir C. F. Knapp, P. G. C., who was appointed by the Grand Commander to perform such duties as he was personally unable to attend to. He sums up:

Made twenty-one visitations; traveled by rail, one thousand five hundred and forty-one miles; traveled by stage, forty miles; total, one thousand five hundred and eighty-one miles. Total number of days occupied in the above visitations, forty-two. Total number knighted in my presence, sixty-eight. The Commanderies visited are in a flourishing condition, and the most perfect harmony exists among them.

On the second day of the session there was a public parade and installation; a brief but eloquent address was made by the newly installed Grand Commander, and an excellent oration delivered by Rev. Sir J. R. Dimm upon the origin, object, dangers and duties of our Order. There are many passages in it we would like to transfer to our report, but we have only space for the following:

One of our enemies is a *king* who lives in glass houses, under cork roofs. He has a ruddy face and sparkling eyes, and looks out at us through blue-glass windows. We fear not so much his opposition as his winning smiles, his flattering insinuations. If he were an open enemy these glittering swords would soon lay out his carcass. But he is a secret foe, who gains admittance to the citadel ere we are aware of danger. He steals away our senses, robs us of our money and saps the foundations of constitution and character. He is an enemy to the human race. As such we should watch him closely. His name is *Alcohol*. He assumes various shapes and characters to suit the taste of his sapient subjects. He has numerous forms of dress, to adapt him to the various fashions of the age. But in all of them he is the same insidious enemy. We should exclude him from our Commanderies, and guard well the avenues to this asylum, for he is delving hard at the foundations below us. But we need fear none of these sources of danger if we "stand by our ancient landmarks," mark well "the vows we have taken, and govern ourselves according to the sublime tenets of our Order."

One charter was granted: a Past Grand Commander's jewel and complimentary resolutions were voted the retiring Grand Commander; a committee appointed to prepare statutes, forms, etc., for the use of the jurisdiction: the dues of a Commandery, whose Recorder had embezzled its funds, were remitted: the work was exemplified by lecture, and discrepancies corrected by the Grand Commander, who urged upon all the necessity of preserving the work intact.

The Grand Recorder, Sir Alfred Creigh, reports that he has entered into a register "the name of every Sir Knight who has been created in Pennsylvania since the introduction of Knighthood into the State." He says it contains "the names of 4624 Sir Knights, with the date of their respective knighting, admission, withdrawing, degrading, death, profession, age, installation as E. C., and the office held in the Grand Commandery." The compilation of such a register must have entailed a vast amount of labor; but its value cannot be estimated too highly.

Sir James H. Hopkins [now Grand Commander] submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of twenty Grand Bodies receive knightly attention. Genial and courteous in tone, it contains passages of deep feeling which are relieved by others of quiet humor; and yet, in his notice of New Jersey, Sir James has gone off at a tangent and running full tilt against Sir Knight Corson, unhorses that wight of scoff and jest with his own weapons. Referring to the rule in Connecticut, requiring all the Commanderies in the State to hold an annual encampment and review, he says, henceforth, each novitiate should be asked "Can you ride a horse with ease and safety?"—a question which we hope will not be lost sight of in the present rage for perfection in military tactics. Noticing the regulation in Illinois that some one of the petitioners for a new Commandery must be competent to discharge the duties of E. C., he very correctly remarks:

Unless "the some one" be the designated E. C., we should oppose this provision. We have no patience with a Commandery which permits its Chief Officer to sit like a figure head on a steamboat, while "*some one*" controls the engine and directs all movements. We do not believe in letting any one wear the honors of the station without winning them. We have a feeling of pity for the man who is willing to wear the badge of office, and trust to others to do the duties of which he is ignorant. But the Commandery which sanctions it excites our ire; and we certainly would give it no charter.

He is opposed to any change in the ritual, and considers the proposition of Sir Knight Creigh to remove the Order of the Red Cross from the Commandery and remit it to the Chapter, as injudicious. Commenting upon the Massachusetts' definition of the word "nearest," in prescribing the jurisdiction of Commanderies, he says it "sometimes means closest and sometimes it doesn't;" and regards the argument as sophistical and very unsatisfactory. He is in favor, however, of abolishing all limitations upon jurisdiction within the State: but in this case, if the applicant resides so far from the Commandery he seeks to join, as would prevent it from obtaining that thorough knowledge which it should have of every candidate, he would require an official endorsement of the fitness of the petitioner, to be furnished by the Commandery nearest his home. He thinks this would be "a check upon those mean enough to attempt to smuggle into honor amongst strangers;" and "at the same time, it would permit those worthy to wear a sword, to receive it from such power as he may prefer, and

enroll himself with such Knights as may be most congenial." There is force in this suggestion, but there is little probability of its adoption. Noticing the form of petition adopted in Minnesota, he considers it "fatally defective," and adds:

It only "makes clean the outside of the platter;" it omits "the weightier matter of the law." We refer to the fact that the petition contains no declaration of belief in the Tri-une God, and the religion of our Lord. This is the very corner-stone upon which our Order has built its beautiful superstructure. We are surprised at its omission. This declaration is absolutely indispensable to gain admission to our *Asylums*, and should be required as preliminary to the reception of a petition.

Our proceedings for 1869 had not been received when the report was sent to press, but he had heard of our doings and gives our Grand Body a kind and knightly notice. He does not, however, appear to have been posted in regard to the special conclave held in May, 1869, when the representatives of several Grand Commanderies were received with due honors, and our G. C. authorized to make similar appointments; for alluding to their non-reception at the annual conclave, he says:

When the representatives from other Grand Commanderies presented their credentials, their reception was objected to on the ground that all Grand Commanderies are subject to the Grand Encampment, and could not appoint or receive such representatives. This seems to us like stretching allegiance to the Grand Encampment into attenuated nothingness. Suppose the Grand Commander of Pennsylvania should visit Louisiana. We are confident every Knight would do him honor. And yet his proxy may not be received, to bear his knightly regards and fraternal wishes, lest the dignity and sovereignty of the Grand Encampment be impaired. These representatives pretend to no legislative powers: they are simply the messengers of good will. [They are like the weaver's beam, sent to and fro to intertwine the delicate but enduring colors of friendship into a web of beauty.]

Having accepted the baton, Sir James lays down the pen with unaffected reluctance, and we quote his closing remarks:

But a few weeks since, a jeweled hand, all glittering with golden bracelets, was stretched out over the Sierra Nevada, and placed confidently in a firm, strong grasp: and thus the Pacific and Atlantic were joined in perpetual wedlock, and the very lightning of heaven, flashing along a net-work of wires, rang out the marriage bells in every quarter of the land. May this be but typical of the increasing strength and closer union of our illustrious Order, and of the secret electric current which runs thrilling from heart to heart.

Toward the elevation and advancement of our Order, none have labored more faithfully, or efficiently, than the Committees on Foreign Correspondence of the various States. They form a glorious band of true-hearted Knights, with whom we have performed several years of pilgrimage, with whom we have had many a friendly joust, and from whom we part with unaffected and sincere regret. Year after year we have been grappled to them with hooks of steel; and although we cease to be an active member, we still claim an honorary position in the great "Mutual Admiration Society." The friendships thus formed will be to us as an enduring and fragrant memory.

A special conclave was held in Philadelphia, June 15, 1869, for the purpose of participating in the semi-centennial celebration of St. John's Commandery No. 4—toward defraying the expenses of which the Grand Body donated the sum of five hundred and fifty-one dollars.

Statistics—Commanderies, 33; Membership, 2729; Knighted, 528.

Sir James H. Hopkins was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Alfred Creigh re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

TEXAS—Annual conclave at Houston, June 14, 1869; Sir Peter W. Gray, R. E. Grand Commander; five Commanderies represented.

In a brief, but excellent, address the Grand Commander announces that peace and brotherly love prevail throughout the jurisdiction, and that although the progress made by increase of numbers has not been great, it has been "doubtless quite as large as should be desired for the real welfare of the Order;" and he adds:

Our policy is to hasten slowly, but surely, in these respects. We need far more of activity, of fervent zeal and courageous devotion to duty, than we do in numbers. The moral power of a small, compact, enduring band of brave Knights, whose escutcheons are pure, and whose banners are emblazoned with the brilliant light of Truth, Fortitude, Courage and Love, is vastly superior to a host illy organized and deficient in virtue.

In reference to the symbolism of our emblems and the principles inculcated in our asylums, he eloquently remarks:

Are we really what we profess? If we are, then seize the weapons provided for your use, from the forge of the Almighty Jehovah. With these battle against error, and sweep away the barriers of truth. Advance the banner of "Immanuel, God with us," and you shall conquer by the sign of the Cross he has given us. "Let your works so shine before men, that they, seeing your good works, may glorify God." Protect the helpless orphan, comfort the destitute widow, defend from wrong and insult the innocent maiden, and cheer every down-trodden and oppressed child of humanity. Thus only can you discharge your duty as Christian Knights. So doing, you reflect honor on your Order, and prepare for the welcome summons of our Captain—"well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Unto him let us ever lift up our hearts in grateful adoration, and pray that he may bless and keep us now and forevermore.

He had, during the recess, provisionally approved the credentials of several Sir Knights who had received appointments as representatives of other Grand Commanderies, as a mark of respect to the Bodies from which they emanated. But as he was not satisfied that the representative system could be adopted, with propriety, between State Grand Commanderies when their subordinate relation to the Grand Encampment of the United States was taken into consideration, he submitted the whole subject to the judgment of the Grand Body. The committee, to whom the matter was referred, reported as follows:

Your committee do not think the fact that this Grand Body owes allegiance to the Grand Encampment of the United States, any reason why it should not adopt the system, the object of which is to strengthen the bonds of Knighthood between the different Grand Bodies, to secure greater unity of purpose and concert of action, to become better acquainted with each other, and thereby to promote in greater degree the principles of our Order. Heretofore, the Grand Bodies, although under one head, have had but little in common. Instead of appreciating the fact that it is one great family, with common interest, it has been more like a number of isolated households, with only a nominal cousinship, and without actual association. To remedy this state of facts, to bind us together as one great whole, it has been deemed best, by a majority of the Grand Commanderies, to send a representative to each other, with whom personal communion could be had at all times upon matters of common interest, and who also could speak for the family he represented, as to matters particularly belonging to the Body sending him; who also may be ready to prevent imposition by those hailing from the jurisdiction represented by him; and also at all times to preserve the dignity of his constituent equally with that of the Grand Commandery receiving him.

The report was concurred in, the representatives received in due form, and the Grand Commander authorized to make similar appointments.

Sir Philip C. Tucker presented a brief report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the receipt of the proceedings of nineteen Grand Commanderies is acknowledged, our own among the number; but the great majority of them are not further noticed. He was present at the triennial meeting of the Grand Encampment; thinks it was wise that no legislation was attempted, as it must have been hasty, owing to the General Grand Chapter meeting at the same time; and considers the meeting of the Grand Encampment as of too much importance to the Order for the representatives to be giving their attention to duties in another body simultaneously in session with it. He deprecates the attack upon the A. and A. Rite as unjustifiable; is opposed to the elimination of the Red Cross from the Orders conferred in the Commandery; can see no good which will result to our Order from the disposition which exists in some quarters for public display, and prays to be delivered from "an annual muster and review, with tents, etc."

Statistics—Commanderies, 6; Membership, 242; Knighted, 17.

Sir W. B. Botts was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir R. Brewster re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

VERMONT—Annual conclave at Burlington, June 8, 1869; Sir Russel S. Taft, R. E. Grand Commander; six Commanderies represented.

The annual address is devoted to local matters, which it treats in a clear and business-like manner. The Grand Commander states that harmony and "a goodly degree of prosperity" prevail. His official acts had been few; he granted leave to a Commandery to attend a Masonic festival, and to another he granted a dispensation to ballot for a companion at a special conclave. Dispensations to rush candidates through in less than the constitutional period are bad enough, but granting them to ballot at a special conclave is a still greater evil, as it affords an opportunity to smuggle an objectionable applicant into a body, and thereby destroy its harmony. He made two official visits; and, noticing that the names of deceased, suspended and expelled Sir Knights have been borne upon the rolls of some of the subordinates for years, suggests that greater care should be exercised in making returns, as "Commanderies, like armies, on paper perform but little effective service." From a statistical table which he gives, it appears that out of 363 Sir Knights in the jurisdiction, only 81 are uniformed, and that the oldest Commandery in the State, with a membership of 65, has not a single "costume." He, therefore, urges upon the subordinates the duty of uniforming themselves, and suggests that they furnish each new member with a "costume," and make the fees high enough to cover the expense. He decided that after a Commandery has once been opened, "nine regular Knights of the Order" must remain and be present in the Asylum to transact business. He recommends that more care be exercised in nomenclature, and that, instead of degrees, communications, encampments and regalia, the terms Orders, conclaves, Commanderies, uniforms or costumes, be used. From the several suggestions of the Grand Commander, it is evident that our Vermont fraters required to be waked up, and we hope the plain talk he has given them will produce the desired result.

Death had been unusually busy during the year, and the Grand Commander pays an affectionate tribute to the memory of a large number of Sir Knights who fell victims to his unerring shaft. Among them are Sirs Gamaliel Washburn and Samuel S. Butler, Past Grand Commanders; and Wm K. Taft, Grand Senior Warden, and brother of the Grand Commander.

The representative system was adopted. A special committee recommended the reprinting of the proceedings of the Grand Body from its organization, June 17, 1824, to October 12, 1831, when owing to the anti-Masonic excitement its labors were suspended, and it was not reorganized until 1851. A list of the proceedings of sister Grand Commanderies is annexed to their report, and a request is made to forward duplicates of such annuals as are missing, in order to complete the files. Louisiana is complete except the first conclave—and we hope our Grand Recorder will promptly supply the deficiency.

Sir T. F. Stuart presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies, Louisiana not included, receive a brief but courteous review.

Statistics—Commanderies, 6; Membership, 364; Knighted, 25.

Sir Russell S. Taft, R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John B. Hollenbeck, E. Grand Recorder—both re-elected.

VIRGINIA—Annual conclave at Richmond, December 16, 1869; Sir John R. McDaniel, R. E. Grand Commander; nine Commanderies represented.

The death of Grand Commander Gill, which occurred a few days after the annual conclave of 1868, and the embarrassment under which he assumed command, are appropriately noticed by R. E. Sir Knight McDaniel, who feelingly adds:

The memory of E. H. Gill will ever be dear to all. His absence from this assembly is most deeply felt; his annual greetings we shall enjoy no more; his enthusiastic devotion to the Order we shall not see equalled; a brilliant light of life has been extinguished; the shades of gloom still hang heavy around our hearts, but relieved by the assurance felt that it has been re-lighted in another and a better world. His sun sunk cloudless in the west, its glittering splendor gilding his departing moments with the gentler tints of hope, closed his career in peace, harmony and brotherly love.

He issued dispensations for the establishment of three Commanderies—one of which is located in West Virginia. Alluding to the appointment of representatives by several Grand Commanderies, he favors the adoption of the system; but the committee appointed at the last annual conclave reported adversely, assigning reasons substantially the same as those advanced by R. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows—and the report was adopted.

Our Order is not in a very flourishing condition, as the Grand Commander says: "this Grand Body numbers sixteen subordinates, and of these only nine may be said to be in operation and three under dispensation, all reporting an affiliation of only about seven hundred." He thinks it is not necessary, and would not be proper, to solicit members, but if the Sir Knights were to put their camp thoroughly in order, and aspire with commendable zeal to merit a well-earned fame for deeds of charity and pure beneficence, many of the good and true would soon desire admission into the Asylum. He fears that the present condition of our Order arises, in some degree, from the inefficiency of

the officers of the subordinates, and suggests that "good might result from some general law of forfeiture of office, without distinction of person or rank, in case of a failure to attend, without a satisfactory reason, a certain number of meetings consecutively." He also considers the regulation of his Grand Body requiring "a Sir Knight not only to be, but also to remain, a member of a Lodge and a Chapter, in order to be received into or remain a member of a Commandery," as injurious to the interests of our Order. He argues that the only condition required of the candidate is that he has taken all the necessary preceding degrees; that "non-affiliation is not of itself a moral delinquency;" and that there is "no ancient authority, written or traditional, for the forfeiture of Templar membership by non-affiliation in the antecedent bodies, whether it be voluntary or by a failure to pay dues." He solicited the opinion of the present M. E. Grand Master of the Grand Encampment on the question, who, in reply to the inquiry, says:

I would state that I know of no Templar rule in our Grand Encampment which requires a candidate for the Orders to be an affiliated Master Mason or Royal Arch Mason. Our rules require that he should receive the degrees up to the Royal Arch, and that is sufficient.

This is correct as far as it goes: but State Grand Commanderies have the right to adopt regulations for the government of their subordinates. And, as the rulings of the Grand Commander, notwithstanding his opinion to the contrary, had been in strict conformity to the regulations, he presented the subject for the consideration of the Grand Body. The committee reported in favor of maintaining the regulations, which was concurred in. In our opinion this was the proper course to pursue. Non-affiliation is an incubus upon Masonry, and to permit unaffiliated Master or R. A. Masons to become members of our Order would increase the evil. A Knight Templar ought at least to belong to the Lodge, which is the foundation stone of our Order. R. E. Sir McDaniel complains that the "tribute and toll" of the symbolic and capitular bodies "may become too grievous to be borne by worthy and most efficient Knights." We can only view a Templar as a Mason, and hold his first duty is to the Lodge. And, so far as our experience goes, we have generally found those, who remained unaffiliated in the Lodge and retained membership in Chapter or Commandery, Masons only in name—men who desired to wear the honors, but were unwilling to bear the burdens.

The suggestion in relation to the forfeiture of office was not concurred in; but the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we believe the Order of Knighthood would grow rapidly in favor of those within, if the officers would be punctual in their attendance, efficient and accomplished in their work, thorough in their discipline, and admitted none but the true and noble; and that our numbers would rapidly increase if the Sir Knights would fully and honestly live up to the teachings of the Order.

Immediately after the annual address, we find the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The subject of territorial jurisdiction and the claim of the Grand Encampment of the United States over territory which this Grand Commandery has occupied heretofore in peace, is not clearly understood:

Resolved, That the subject of the order of the M. E. Grand Commander of the

Grand Encampment of the United States to surrender such territory, received and read by us this day, be referred to a committee of three, with instructions to report thereon at our next grand annual assembly.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to report upon the subject of a permanent separation of this Grand Commandery from the Grand Commandery of the United States, and to suggest the best and most efficient means of effecting and securing the oft-expressed desire of this Grand Commandery to be free and independent.

Nothing in the proceedings, except the preamble, explains the introduction and adoption of these resolutions. The first evidently refers to the claim of the Grand Encampment to exercise jurisdiction over West Virginia, and the second looks like a corollary thereto. But it is in marked contrast with a resolution adopted at the previous annual conclave, declaring that the course of the delegates to the seventeenth triennial session of the Grand Encampment, in not introducing former resolutions of withdrawal from that Grand Body "was, in a high degree, proper." May we not hope that the committee appointed in the present instance will act with equal prudence and discretion.

Two charters were granted, and the Grand Commander authorized to issue a charter to the Commandery in West Virginia, on the return of its dispensation. Appropriate resolutions were adopted and a mourning page set apart to the memory of Past Grand Commander Sir E. H. Gill.

Sir James A. Scott presented a brief report on Foreign Correspondence, which acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of sixteen Grand Commanderies, our own included. He expresses grateful thanks for the tributes paid to the memory of Past Grand Commander Gill, by the different Correspondence Committees, and, in return, desires to see the correspondence system abolished, as he considers the custom of reviewing the proceedings of Grand Bodies "is far more honored in the breach than in the observance." Referring to the controversy on the A. and A. Rite, he says the discussion of disputed questions is out of place in these reports, and would prefer the Grand Commander to present such matters of interest as transpire in other jurisdictions. He thinks a report "may be a very convenient medium to indulge in language of 'mutual admiration,'" and yet it may become quite as convenient a medium to indulge in "controversies which never result in good, but often in mischief and alienation of feeling." Admitting that "a report from a Committee on Foreign Correspondence is nothing, after all, but the individual opinion of the author," he holds that, when published with the proceedings, it has been sanctioned; and says he does "not recognize the right of any Grand Body, whether in Masonry or Knighthood, to interfere with" the governing bodies in his jurisdiction.

We fail to see the force of the objections. Neither "mutual admiration" nor intemperate language are inherent to the system: the last, especially, should find no place in a Masonic paper; and when a writer resorts to it he abuses the confidence reposed in him. The discussion of questions of Masonic interest, when conducted in a frank and courteous manner, not only adds to the value of such reports, but tends to the establishment of correct principles, and cannot properly be construed as an "interference" with the rights of any Grand Body.

Statistics very imperfect—Commanderies, 14; 12 of which return a membership of 597.

Sir John R. McDaniel was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir John Dove re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

WISCONSIN—Tenth annual conclave at Milwaukee, January 20, 1869; Sir Alvin B. Alden, R. E. Grand Commander; seven Commanderies represented.

In rendering an account of his stewardship, the Grand Commander states he was present at the triennial session of the Grand Encampment in St. Louis, and speaks in glowing terms of the courteous reception and unbounded hospitalities which characterized that occasion. He had visited all the Commanderies in his jurisdiction, and reports that peace and harmony prevail in their asylums. Although no petitions for the organization of new Commanderies had been presented, he is of opinion that the membership is increasing too rapidly, and that a greater degree of caution should be exercised in the selection of material. He also suggested that the subordinates should be limited to holding one regular conclave in each month; that all petitions for the Orders should lie over from one regular conclave until the next, before being balloted upon; that whenever a rejection occurs, the candidate so rejected should not be permitted to renew his application until after the expiration of six months from the date of such rejection, and then only in the Commandery which rejected him, unless he should receive its consent to apply to another; and a series of resolutions embodying these suggestions were adopted.

He feelingly announces the death of Past Grand Treasurer Sir S. S. Daggett; appropriate resolutions were adopted in honor of the Knightly dead, and five memorial tablets are appended to the proceedings.

A proposition, that no one can be elected to either of the first four offices of the Grand Commandery, unless he shall have been elected and installed as E. Commander, was laid over until the next annual conclave. Resolutions of thanks were tendered the retiring Grand Commander for three years' faithful service, and a testimonial ordered to be presented to him.

Sir Harlow Pease presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of eighteen Grand Commanderies, our own included, receive courteous mention, but are not reviewed.

Statistics—Commanderies, 7; Membership, 625; Knighted, not stated.

Sir William H. Hiner was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir William T. Palmer re-elected E. Grand Recorder.

CONCLUSION—The proceedings under review bear ample testimony to the flourishing condition and unprecedented prosperity of Templar Masonry. The statistics of the twenty-six Grand Commanderies, although imperfect in some instances, give 338 subordinates with a membership of at least 24,000—of which number some 4000 received the Orders during the past year. The careful scrutiny exercised in the admission of candidates is evidenced by the fact that cases of discipline are extremely rare, and Committees on Grievances find nothing whereon to base a report. No discordant sound breaks the harmony which prevails among the subordinates, and no jarring interests disturb the friendly relations existing between the State Grand Bodies. The bonds of union, which unite them under one Supreme Head, have been strengthened by the very general adoption of the system of mutual representation: the fear of centralization

has passed away: Massachusetts has conformed to the requirements of the constitution of the Grand Encampment; and Mississippi, for the first time since the war, has published her proceedings. With these evidences of prosperity, it becomes our duty to exclaim with the Psalmist—

"Non nobis, Domine, non nobis, sed nomine tuo da gloriam!"

and by deeds of charity and pure beneficence, show our appreciation of the benefits so abundantly bestowed.

Courteously submitted,

JAMES B. SCOT.

M. A. CALONGNE.

The R. E. Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing Masonic year, Sirs Daniel E. Scruggs and Robert Strong acting as tellers, with the following result:

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Sir JOSEPH POTTS HORNOR..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander.</i> |
| Sir JAMES B. SCOT..... | <i>V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.</i> |
| Sir THERON A. BARTLETTE..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo.</i> |
| Sir JAMES E. MCBETH..... | <i>E. Grand Captain General.</i> |
| Sir HENRY RUFUS SWASEY..... | <i>E. Grand Prelate.</i> |
| Sir RICHARD LAMBERT..... | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden.</i> |
| Sir JOHN H. CLARK..... | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden.</i> |
| Sir EMANUEL BLESSEY..... | <i>E. Grand Treasurer.</i> |
| Sir GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder.</i> |
| Sir JAMES STAFFORD..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer.</i> |
| Sir JOSEPH A. PEEL..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer.</i> |
| Sir WILLIAM L. STANFORD..... | <i>E. Grand Warder.</i> |
| Sir RAYMOND S. BURK..... | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards.</i> |

Sir John Q. A. Fellows, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, with the assistance of Sir Samuel M. Todd acting as Deputy, then proceeded to and did install the above named officers for the ensuing Masonic year in DUE AND AMPLE FORM.

Sir Samuel M. Todd moved that a committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions on the death of Sir Stephen S. Selleck, late E. G. Captain of the Guards, to report to the R. E. Grand Commander after the closing of the Grand Commandery; which was adopted and Sir Knights Sam'l M. Todd, J. Q. A. Fellows and Theron A. Bartlette appointed on said committee.

On motion of R. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies; and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Grand Commander for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect, and that fifty copies of the proceedings be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Correspondence.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

On motion of Sir James B. Scot, it was

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated to E. Sir Knight Grand Recorder, and five dollars to E. Sir Knight Grand Captain of the Guards, for services rendered.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed Sirs James B. Scot and M. A. Calongne a Committee on Correspondence.

Sir Knights Samuel M. Todd and J. Q. A. Fellows respectively presented their credentials as Grand Representatives near this Grand Commandery, the former from the Grand Commandery of Georgia, the latter from the Grand Commanderies of Minnesota and Vermont.

The R. E. Deputy Grand Commander, Sir James B. Scot, then formally introduced to the Grand Commandery Sir Samuel M. Todd, the Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Georgia, and Sir John Q. A. Fellows, the Grand Representative of the Grand Commanderies of Minnesota and Vermont, who were welcomed as such by the R. E. Grand Commander and were received with knightly honors.

Sir J. Q. A. Fellows moved that Article 10 of the By-Laws be repealed.

Sir Samuel M. Todd moved as a substitute, that the whole matter be laid over until next annual grand conclave; which was carried.

No further business appearing the R. E. Grand Commandery was was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN AND KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next annual conclave, on Friday, February 19th, A. D. 1871, A. O. 753.



JOSEPH P. HONOR,

Grand Commander.

ATTEST :

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

Report of Special Committee on Death of Sir S. S. Selleck.

NEW ORLEANS, February 22, 1870.

TO SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR,

R. E. Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Louisiana:

The committee to whom was entrusted the duty of preparing a report upon the life and Masonic services of Sir Stephen Sidney Selleck, late Grand Captain of the Guards of the Grand Commandery, respectfully present the following as a brief sketch of the very eventful life of our lamented Frater:

Stephen S. Selleck was born in the City of New York, in April, 1794, and entered the U. S. Navy at the age of seventeen. He served with distinguished gallantry under the invincible Perry, on Lake Erie, in 1813, and participated at the capture of the British Fleet; receiving in that engagement three wounds. He was under Commodore Decatur in his expedition in the Mediterranean against the Algerines in the year 1815. After serving in the navy about five years as a midshipman, he resigned and engaged in commercial pursuits in the city of Troy, N. Y., and subsequently took command of a merchant ship, which position he maintained until 1829, when he came to New Orleans and took charge of a steamboat running on the Mississippi river. Leaving the river trade, he became Wharfinger of the First District Steamboat Landing, and then Boarding Officer and Inspector of U. S. Customs, which latter position he held until the breaking out of the late civil war.

The month in which he attained his majority and whilst still serving in the navy, he was initiated in Templar Lodge in the city of Albany, New York; this event took place on the 30th April, 1815. In the year 1823 he received the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, including those of Royal and Select Master, in Temple R. A. Chapter, Albany, and the order of Christian Knighthood in Temple Encampment, Albany, in the year 1824. Subsequently, residing in the city of Troy, N. Y., he became a member of Apollo Royal Arch Chapter, in which body he held the position of Scribe, and is still remembered by some of the oldest brethren in that city as a zealous and exemplary Free Mason.

He retained his membership in the various Masonic bodies to which he belonged in the State of New York, until about the year 1848, when he obtained demits and assisted in forming Alpha Lodge No. 72, of which he became a charter member, as he was also of New Era R. A. Chapter, and Jacques de Molay Encampment of Knights Templar; of this latter body he was for many years an active and efficient member and held various offices therein, including that of Generalissimo. At the formation of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, Sir Stephen S. Selleck, then well stricken in years, was elected Grand Captain of the

Guards, which office he held until the day of his death, which occurred on the 15th February, instant, a few days before the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery; being at the time of his death the oldest Mason known in Louisiana. Then died a truly valiant and magnanimous Knight Templar, one loved and respected by all—a true and worthy Mason and a good and honest man.

Resolved, That in testimony of our respect for the memory of Sir Stephen Sidney Selleck—whose death we lament as that of a true and courteous Knight Templar, exemplary Mason and worthy citizen—a page of the proceedings of this Grand Conclave be dedicated to his memory.

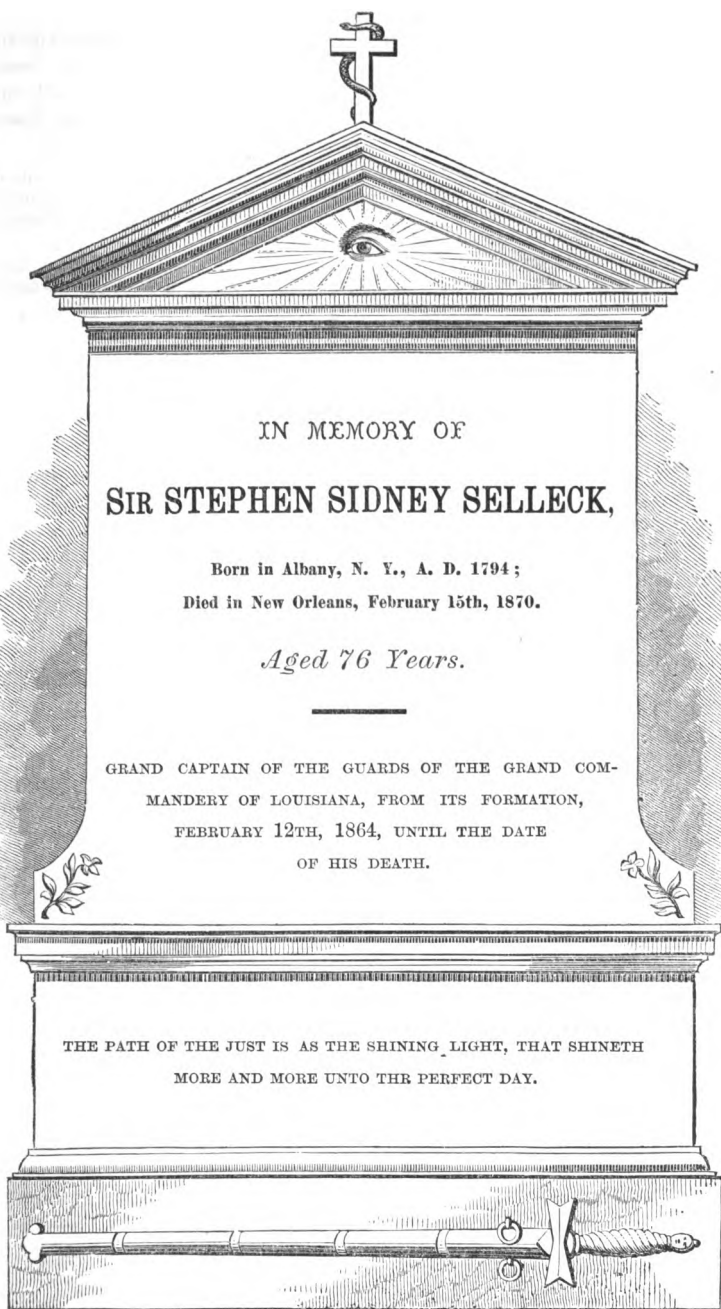
Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the members of his family in their bereavement, and offer to them the consolation of that Faith which sustained our departed Sir Knight through his long and weary pilgrimage on earth.

Courteously submitted,

SAM'L M. TODD,

J. Q. A. FELLOWS,

THERON A. BARTLETTE.



IN MEMORY OF

SIR STEPHEN SIDNEY SELLECK,

Born in Albany, N. Y., A. D. 1794 ;

Died in New Orleans, February 15th, 1870.

Aged 76 Years.

GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS OF THE GRAND COM-
MANDERY OF LOUISIANA, FROM ITS FORMATION,
FEBRUARY 12TH, 1864, UNTIL THE DATE
OF HIS DEATH.

THE PATH OF THE JUST IS AS THE SHINING LIGHT, THAT SHINETH
MORE AND MORE UNTO THE PERFECT DAY.

ANNUAL RETURNS

OF

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES,

FOR THE YEAR 1869.

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Original Charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York, May 4th, A. D. 1816
A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th,
A. D. 1844.

OFFICERS FOR 1870.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sir Hugh Breen.....E. C. | Sir F W Delesdernier.....Treasurer. |
| " John G Fleming .....G. | " M A Calongne.....Recorder. |
| " John A Peel.....C. G. | " Angel Martin .....Stan. Bearer. |
| " John Young, Jr.....Prelate. | " John A G Fisher....Sword Bearer. |
| " E J Barksdale.....Sen. Warden. | " John Kellett.....Warder. |
| " I W Homan.....Jun. Warden. | " J L Daussat .....Sentinel. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Fulgence Ricau, P. G. C. | M. A. Calongne, | F. W. Delesdernier, |
| T. A. Barlette, | James Stafford, | Richard Lambert. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Allabaugh, J R | Czarnowski, Oscar | Ivens, E M | Riverra, P Nap |
| Broas, Smith | Crawford, J D | Isaacson, A H | Rooney, John |
| Burden, Thomas | Donella, O J | Jones, F A | Rice, Felix |
| Baker, John | DeLucas, Bruno | Johnson, Geo | Soulé, George |
| Bean, Phil | Day, J M | Kells, Charles E | Scott, John K |
| Beebe, O H | Ellsworth, O | Knapp, F H | Starr, William |
| Brown, H C | Ewell, Wm M | Keenan, Pat | Skardon, A W |
| Buchanan, H | Furneaux, Jas | Lafon, René | Stewart, David |
| Carter, J H | Ferranti, Theop | McCulloch, Wm | Sheehan, Thos |
| Cox, William | Garrett, A C | McDuff, Wm | Timberlake, John |
| Cage, D S | Harvey, J H | Melloch, E | Thomas, Charles |
| Constantini, Hon'y | Heron, A C | Maguire, J W | Viosca, J Sr |
| Clark, John | Hillman, A | Mullen, H J | Williams, Peter |
| Clarke, Geo H | Herwig, J L | Nelson, J M | Woolverton, N W |
| Cain, L P | Herwig, P F | Ochiglevich, J | White, Jona C |
| Carraher, Pat | Hart, L | O'Dowd, J | Wells, W H |
| Chandler, J Benj | Hinton, Isaac T | Olle, J | Zeigler, Joseph |
| Cassidy, Henry | Hopkins, S Jr | Panzer, S H | Total—87, |

ORDERS CONFERRED—1867—P W Mohr; 1869, Wm M Ewell, Henry C Brown, H J Mullen, Patrick Keenan, Henry Cassidy, S Hopkins, Jr., John A G Fisher, A H Isaacson, I W Howman, F A Jones, Geo Johnson.

DEMITTED—1867—J B Broue.

DIED—1867—J E Dunken.

STRICKEN FROM ROLL—Antonio Costa, Jules Durrive, J A Dias, A Ferrier, Jean Fisse, L Beney, N Durand, J C Wood, L J Dodge, L C Aubert, R H Barrow, John Philson, J C Henningsen, Chas Goetz, L W Dodge, D A Long, Warren Davis, A L Tucker, A Campbell, R J Evans, A Brown, R E Diamond, F H Hatch.

JACQUES DeMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 25th, A. D. 1851, A. O. 733.

OFFICERS FOR 1870.

| | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Sir James B Scot | E. C. | Sir Emanuel Blessey..... | Treasurer. |
| " Daniel E Scruggs..... | G. | " Gustavus Sontag..... | Recorder. |
| " Rufus L Bruce..... | C. G. | " H P Buckley..... | Stan. Bearer. |
| " Joseph H DeGrange..... | Prelate. | " T D Van Horn..... | Sword Bearer. |
| " L T Murdock..... | Sen. Warden. | " Z M Pike | Warder. |
| " Robert Strong..... | Jun. Warden. | " R S Burk, (not a member)... | Sent. |
| Sirs T F Patton, A B Small and W H Manning..... | | Guards, | |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| W W Johnson, | John B Robertson, | Henry R Swasey, P G C., |
| | Samuel M Todd, P G C. | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Addison, Ashford | Dunn, James B | Lunn, Thomas | Selleck, S S |
| Amesbury, J O | Douglass, James A | McNeil, Alexander | Smith, John C |
| Bockius Jacob M | Fuller, Charles A | Monroe, John T | Schilling, H T |
| Bell, Wm Robert | Foote, Alexis Smith | Mitchell, D F | Selby, George |
| Batchelor, James C | FitzGerald, W E | Murray, Thomas | Santini, Jos |
| Bothick, Thos W | Gale, James | McGuffy, H | Stevenson, J A |
| Bevan, John | Gordy, John C | Mason, Wm J | Sheldon, A D |
| Barnett, Edward | Glennon, Robert | Maybin, Wm | Turek, J R |
| Betterton, W G | Garner, Geo G | Mandal, Peter C | Todd, James |
| Beattie, Wm | Hasam, Thomas | McWilliams, Jno G | Whann, Wm Jr |
| Bennett, Philip | Hawkins, John | Macon, Thomas L | Weber, Wm |
| Buckner, Simon B | Hamburger, H | Newton, O W | Wang, Fred |
| Böning, Geo | Hollyland, F | Pike, Wm S | Ward, John |
| Carter, Albert G | Jones, John W | Perkins, William M | Webster, L J |
| Clarke, Joseph D | King, George H'r'd | Rhinehart, B F | Wynne, C E |
| Craig, Emmet D | Kent, Amos | Ramelli, D S | Wilner, J C |
| Chase, C H | Lane, Lafayette N | Race, Geo W | Williams, Hugh |
| Carroll, Timothy | Long, H W | Robson, Wm | Yorke, E A |
| Darden, R G | | | Total—91. |

ORDERS CONFERRED—H P Buckley, Geo Böning, Amos Kent, William Robson, Robert Strong, A D Sheldon, James Todd.

AFFILIATED—Geo G Garner, A B Small.

DIED—1863—Dan'l L Tighe; 1867—J B Cheeseborough; 1869—Nathan Berwick, Jos G Logan, John E McClure, Moses Winslow.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, Sept. 4th, A. D. 1862, A. O. 744.

OFFICERS FOR 1870.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Sir James E McBeth | E. C. | Sir E M Rusha | Treasurer. |
| " John H Clark | G. | " S B Wright | Recorder. |
| " W L Stanford | C. G. | " W Y At Lee | Stan. Bearer. |
| " A B Long | Prelate. | " H T Twitchell | Sword Bearer. |
| " N Burbank | Sen. Warden. | " P P Walsh | Warder. |
| " W G James | Jun. Warden. | " Raymond S Burk | Sentinel. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| J Q A Fellows, P G C., | Jos P Hornor, G C., | Thos Cripps, |
| W C Driver, | | Wm R Whitaker. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Andrews, E B | Cooper, William | Hunt, C S | Robinson, N T N |
| Abbott, Geo H | Dickey, E S | Johnson, W A | Rice, Charles S |
| Baldwin, Albert | Doane, Harmon | Leacock, W T | Reid, Edw |
| Blake, George A | Dunlap, J G | Morse, H F | Shaw, Alfred |
| Bullitt, Cuthbert | Estlin, Charles T | Monroe, S F | Seymour, Samuel J |
| Benedict, William S | Fromeyer, W H | Murphy, Wm E | Sizer, George W |
| Bovard, Robert D | Friend, Thomas | McGinnis, J J | Slaight, H L |
| Baldy, G | Gardner, L H | Miller, Nick | Stewart, W P |
| Billings, A E | Gilman, S H | Nash, Charles T | Stockdale, S A |
| Chamberlain, Geo | Girard, M E | Pilcher, Mason | Tomlin, W J |
| Crawford, Levi S | Hays, H T | Pierce, H D | Tisdale, Eugene |
| Campbell, Benj | Hall, G Alfred | Parle, A | Watson, Robert |
| Carroll, R W W | Hughes, A de B | Perkins, F W | Woods Michael |
| Collins, John F | Hildreth, D | Potter, Jotham | Total—72. |

ORDERS CONFERRED—Wm E Murphy, Jotham Potter, G H Abbot, H T Twitchell, S A Stockdale, A de B Hughes, A B Long, W P Stewart, S B Wright, H L Slaight, F W Perkins.

AFFILIATED—H F Morse.

DEMITTED—R H Read.

DIED—Christopher Levins.

RECAPITULATION.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Commanderies, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Membership, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 250 |
| Knights, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29 |
| Affiliated, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Demitted, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Died, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Stricken from Roll, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 23 |

**LIST OF PAST GRAND OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS,
OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.**

| YEAR. | E. E. GRAND COMMANDER. | V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER. | E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO. | E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. | E. GRAND PRELATE. | E. GRAND TREASURER. | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
|-------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1864. | Henry Rufus Swasey | J. Q. A. Fellows..... | Fulgence Ricau.... | Willis P. Coleman*.. | John H. Holland*.. | Hosea Edwards*.... | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1865. | J. Q. A. Fellows.... | S. M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau.... | Willis P. Coleman*.. | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... Joseph P. Hornor. | |
| 1866. | Sam'l M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau.... | Joseph P. Hornor.. | M. A. Calongne..... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... G. Sontag. | |
| 1867. | Sam'l M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau.... | Joseph P. Hornor.. | Wm. R. Whitaker... H. R. Swasey..... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... G. Sontag. | |
| 1868. | Fulgence Ricau.... | Joseph P. Hornor.. | J. A. Stevenson.... | Wm. R. Whitaker... H. R. Swasey..... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... Alfred E. Billings. | |
| 1869. | Joseph P. Hornor.. | J. A. Stevenson.... | Wm. R. Whitaker... M. A. Calongne.... | M. A. Calongne.... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... G. Sontag. | |
| 1870. | Joseph P. Hornor.. | James B. Scot..... | T. A. Bartlette..... | Jas. E. McBeth..... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... G. Sontag. | |

*Died.

TABLE OF GRAND COMMANDERIES IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF LOUISIANA.

| GRAND COMMANDERIES. | GRAND COMMANDER. | ADDRESS. | GRAND RECORDER. | ADDRESS. |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Alabama..... | Peleg Brown..... | Mobile..... | Edmund M. Hastings..... | Montgomery..... |
| California..... | John S. Titus..... | San Francisco..... | Lawrence C. Owen..... | San Francisco..... |
| Connecticut..... | Amos S. Treat..... | Bridgeport..... | E. Gilman Storer..... | New Haven..... |
| Georgia..... | Thos. Whitty Chandler..... | Atlanta..... | Chas. E. Armstrong..... | Macon..... |
| Illinois..... | Chas. Edwards Munger..... | Joliet..... | James Hoge Miles..... | Chicago..... |
| Indiana..... | Thomas Newby..... | Cambridge City..... | John M. Bramwell..... | Indianapolis..... |
| Iowa..... | R. F. Bower..... | Keokuk..... | W. B. Langridge..... | Muscatine..... |
| Kentucky..... | J. M. Worrall..... | Covington..... | Wm. C. Munger..... | Louisville..... |
| Kansas..... | Wm. O. Gould..... | Leavenworth..... | Erasmus T. Carr..... | Leavenworth..... |
| Maine..... | Chas. H. McLellan..... | Bath..... | Ira Berry..... | Portland..... |
| Massachusetts and R. Island..... | W. W. Baker..... | Boston..... | Alfred F. Chapman..... | Boston..... |
| Mississippi..... | Chas. T. Bond..... | New Albany..... | J. L. Power..... | Jackson..... |
| Missouri..... | Jas. F. Aglar..... | St. Louis..... | Geo. Frank Gouley..... | St. Louis..... |
| Michigan..... | John M. Armstrong..... | Hillsdale..... | O. Bourke..... | Detroit..... |
| Minnesota..... | E. D. B. Porter..... | Mankato..... | Geo. A. Savory..... | Minneapolis..... |
| New Hampshire..... | Henry O. Kent..... | Lancaster..... | Horace Chase..... | Hopkinton..... |
| New Jersey..... | Isaac A. Nichols..... | Newark..... | Thomas J. Corson..... | Trenton..... |
| New York..... | H. Clay Preston..... | Binghampton..... | Robert Macy..... | New York..... |
| Ohio..... | Heman Ely..... | Elyria..... | John D. Caldwell..... | Cincinnati..... |
| Pennsylvania..... | Jas. H. Hopkins..... | Pittsburg..... | Alfred Creigh..... | Washington..... |
| Tennessee..... | James M. Fowler..... | Columbia..... | John Frizzell..... | Nashville..... |
| Texas..... | Wm. B. Botts..... | Houston..... | Robert Brewster..... | Houston..... |
| Virginia..... | John Robin McDaniel..... | Lynchburg..... | John Dove..... | Richmond..... |
| Vermont..... | Russell S. Taft..... | Burlington..... | John B. Hollenbeck..... | Burlington..... |
| Wisconsin..... | Wm. H. Hiner..... | Fond du Lac..... | Wm. T. Palmer..... | Milwaukee..... |
| Grand Encampment U. S. | Wm. Sewall Gardner, M. E. G. M. | Boston..... | John D. Caldwell, G. G. Recorder. | Cincinnati..... |

Officers of Grand Commandery.

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Sir JOSEPH POTTS HOBNOB..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander.</i> |
| Sir JAMES B. SCOT..... | <i>V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.</i> |
| Sir THERON A. BARTLETTE..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo.</i> |
| Sir JAMES E. MCBETH..... | <i>E. Grand Captain General.</i> |
| Sir HENRY RUFUS SWASEY..... | <i>E. Grand Prelate.</i> |
| Sir RICHARD LAMBERT..... | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden.</i> |
| Sir JOHN H. CLARK..... | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden.</i> |
| Sir EMANUEL BLESSEY..... | <i>E. Grand Treasurer.</i> |
| Sir GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder.</i> |
| Sir JAMES STAFFORD..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer.</i> |
| Sir JOSEPH A. PEEL..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer.</i> |
| Sir WILLIAM L. STANFORD..... | <i>E. Grand Warder.</i> |
| Sir RAYMOND S. BURK..... | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards.</i> |

Annual Grand Conclave of 1871.

The next Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, will be held in Grand Lodge, Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Friday, February 19th, A. D, 1871, A. O. 753.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Sirs JAMES B. SCOT and M. A. CALONGNE.

TO GRAND RECORDERS.

I respectfully request the Grand Recorders of the various Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar, to transmit to me, by separate mails, duplicate copies of their Proceedings, and the favor shall be reciprocated with due courtesy.

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

Lock Box 321, Post Office, New Orleans, La.

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.



Grand Commandery

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Louisiana

1871.

Free masons, Louisiana. Knights Templars
Grand Commandery.
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA,

AT ITS EIGHTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE,

New Orleans, February 17th, A. D. 1871, A. O. 753.

| | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------|
| SIR JOHN A. STEVENSON, | - | - | - | R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. |
| SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG, | - | - | - | E. GRAND RECORDER. |



NEW ORLEANS:

C. W. CLARK, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER

1871.

D. Y.

42

757

282-A2

1871

A. 928415

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

THE R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at its Sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, city of New Orleans, on Friday, February 17th, A. D. 1871, A. O. 753, at 12 o'clock m., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR | R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. |
| " JAMES B. SCOT | V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER. |
| " THERON A. BARTLETTE | E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO. |
| " GEORGE BALDY | as E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. |
| " HENRY R. SWASEY | E. GRAND PRELATE. |
| " RICHARD LAMBERT | E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN. |
| " JOHN H. CLARK | E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN. |
| " EMANUEL BLESSEY | E. GRAND TREASURER. |
| " GUSTAVUS SONTAG | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
| " HUGH BREEN | as E. GRAND STANDARD BEARER. |
| " JOHN A. PEEL | E. GRAND SWORD BEARER. |
| " WM. L. STANFORD | as E. GRAND WARDER. |
| " RAYMOND S. BURKE | E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS. |
| Also, SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS | P. R. E. G. COMMANDER. |
| " SAMUEL MANNING TODD | P. R. E. G. COMMANDER. |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODD | Pennsylvania and New York, |
| " JOSEPH P. HORNOR, | Missouri. |
| " JAMES C. BATCHELOR | Tennessee. |
| " J. Q. A. FELLOWS, | Minnesota and Vermont. |

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns:

SIR HUGH BREEN, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

SIR G. SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

SIR JOHN H. CLARK, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns then submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:

NEW ORLEANS, February 17, 1871.

To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

Your Committee on Credentials and Returns respectfully beg leave to report the following Commanderies entitled to representation, and the following Sir Knights entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery, as legal representatives:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

John G. Fleming, E. C.; S. Hopkins, jr., G.; I. W. Homan, C. G.

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

James B. Scot, E. C., Joseph H. DeGrange, proxy; Daniel E. Scruggs, G.; R. L. Bruce, C. G.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

George Baldy, E. C.; John H. Clark, G.; W. L. Stanford, C. G.

Courteously submitted,

HUGH BREEN,
JOHN H. CLARK,
G. SONTAG.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz:

Indivisible Friends No. 1; Jacques De Molay No. 2; Orleans No. 3.

The R. E. Grand Commander then delivered the following

ADDRESS:

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS:

With great pleasure I again welcome you, in the precincts of our Sacred Asylum, to our annual labors, and trust that they may be performed to the satisfaction of us all. But while congratulating ourselves in health and comfort, let us not forget those who have bid us adieu forever. M. E. Past Grand Master B. B. French, of the District of Columbia, R. E. Past Grand Commander Fulgence Ricau, and E. Grand Captain General James E. McBeth, both of this Grand Commandery, have passed from this world to receive their reward in a better. Upon the receipt of the news of the demise of the former and the latter, I issued appropriate general orders, copies of which are annexed. In the case of

Past Grand Commander Fulgence Ricau, I had no official notice of his death, and no knowledge whatever of it, until after his interment; it was impossible, therefore, for me to take the necessary steps to pay the last tribute of respect to his remains; this duty was, however, performed by the Commandery over which he so long presided. The date of the decease of Sir Fulgence Ricau has been so recent, that I have issued no orders on the subject, preferring that the Grand Commandery itself should take appropriate action, which I now recommend.

During the past year I have performed no official acts of any moment; there has been nothing to disturb the harmony which has always existed in our ranks, and our fraternal ties are more and more strengthened every day. I had hoped that some steps would have been taken looking to the organization of one or more new Commanderies out of the city of New Orleans, but our present subordinates seem to be all that are necessary, and when the time arrives our fraters in the parishes will doubtless apply for dispensations. As a matter of some interest, I have compiled a list of Knights of this jurisdiction residing out of the city and in this State, and find them to number as follows: Pontchartroula, 1; Port Hudson, 1; Thibodaux, 2; Houma, 2; Big Cane, 1; Franklin, 2; Tangipahoa, 1; Clinton, 1; Shreveport, 3; Bayou Sara, 1; Monroe, 2, and Vermillionville, 1. From this it is evident that matters are not yet ripe for the propagation of our Order in the country.

I beg leave to submit herewith my credentials, as the Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey, those of Sir James B. Scot, as the Grand Representative of Maine, and of Sir Samuel M. Todd, as the Grand Representative of Kentucky, to this Grand Asylum, and ask that they may be courteously received.

On 22d of January I appointed R. E. Sir Ezra S. Bannum and R. E. Sir Isaac S. Titus, Grand Representatives of this Grand Commandery near the Grand Commanderies of New York and California.

In June last it was suggested to me by our E. Grand Recorder, to donate the proceedings of various sister Grand Commanderies, now in his hands, to the Grand Lodge Library: not deeming that I had the power to make the gift myself, and yet heartily approving the project, I instructed that officer to make a deposit of the pamphlets in the Grand Lodge Library, the same to become a donation if this Grand Commandery should so will it. This course is exactly the same taken by our Grand Chapter, and I earnestly trust it may be adopted.

I have granted dispensations for conferring the Order in less than legal time: once in the case of a mariner, and again in the case of four companions from the country, who were temporarily in the city in attendance upon the Masonic Grand Bodies. All other applications have been refused.

In view of the approaching Conclave of the M. E. Grand Encampment of the United States of America at Baltimore, in September next, I would suggest that fitting appropriation be made to defray the expenses of our delegates thereto, as it will be highly advantageous for us to be represented therein.

The only matter laid over from our last Conclave is the proposed repeal of Article 10 of our By-Laws, which requires a period of probation of six months for every candidate for our Orders, after his exaltation as a Royal Arch Mason. This law has now been in force some years, and has had the most beneficial effects in elevating the standard of the material which we have been using, and I should

not only regret but deeply grieve to see it removed from our statute book. The only argument that can be urged against it is one in its favor, and which should ensure its continuance. Our Order is a most Holy one; it breathes of a deeper religion than any merely Masonic degree; and it is unfitting, without preparation of any kind, without time for the candidate to even reflect, much less to study and research, to make haste to dub him a Knight Templar before he has attempted to digest the lessons taught him as a Master Mason! Yet such was the course of action before the adoption of the By-Law in question, and such it will be again if it is repealed; no officer or set of officers can prevent it, and it will be done by those who, in the very act, will think they are benefitting the Order!

I have visited all of our subordinate Commanderies, have been cordially and courteously received everywhere, and am delighted with all our doings; my thanks are due and tendered to all with whom I have come in official contact; and with thanks to the Almighty, through the wisdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, for the present happy condition of the Order of the Temple in this jurisdiction, I can only add, *Esto Perpetua!*

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,
 † THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA., }
New Orleans, October 3, 1870.

To all Eminent Commanders in the State of Louisiana :

Appended hereto is the General Order of the M. E. William Sewell Gardner, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the U. S. A., upon the occasion of the death of our lamented Past Grand Master, Sir Benjamin Brown French; it will be obeyed and respected throughout this jurisdiction, and with this order, be promulgated by you at the first Conclave of your Commandery, after the receipt hereof.

The deceased having been honored during his life with the highest trusts in the power of the Order to bestow upon him, and having worthily fulfilled his various duties with very general satisfaction, it is meet that in death, the outward symbols of our respect should be strictly observed. A good man, a zealous Mason, and a true Knight, he has gone before us to receive the reward ever to be the recompense of a well-spent life.

{ SEAL. }

JOSEPH P. HORNER,
Grand Commander of Louisiana.

By order of the Grand Commander:
 G. SONTAG, *Grand Recorder.*

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, }
 FROM THE GRAND MASTER OF TEMPLARS. }

*To our Right Eminent and Eminent Commanders of The Temple,
 and to all true and courteous Knights throughout our Jurisdiction :*

The Illustrious Knight and accomplished gentleman, our Past Grand Master Sir BENJAMIN BROWN FRENCH, expired at Washington, in the District of Columbia, this twelfth day of August current.

His life has been renowned by his unswerving attachment to the Ancient and Honorable Society of Free Masonry in all its departments and grades.

During a period of six years he presided with distinguished ability over the Templars of the United States of America, and with rare knightly courtesy he adorned the high position of Grand Master.

Honored by his Brethren, respected by his Companions, loved by all his Fraters, he passed through years of activity into the quiet serenity of a green old age.

His knightly sword without a stain or tarnish upon its bright surface, has been returned to its scabbard, there forever to rest.

To honor the memory of our departed Knight, and Past Grand Master, this order will be read at the head of the lines, (the Knights being formed in due array,) in all our Grand and Subordinate Commanderies at the Conclave or Assembly held next after the reception hereof, and our officers of the Grand Encampment and of our Grand Commanderies, and Commanders of Subordinate Commanderies will wear crape at the hilt of their swords for six months from the date hereof. Banners will also be trimmed with crape during the same time.

{ SEAL. }

Given at Boston this twelfth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

WILLIAM SEWELL GARDNER,
Grand Master.

By order of the Grand Master:

JOHN D. CALDWELL, *Grand Recorder.*

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,
† THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA., }
New Orleans, October 3, 1870.

To our Eminent Commanders of The Temple,

and to all true and courteous Knights throughout our Jurisdiction:

On the 10th of August, 1870, at Orient, Long Island, in the State of New York, our Eminent Grand Captain General, Sir James E. McBeth, departed this life, after a long and severe illness.

From the moment of his admission into the Order, he became enthusiastic in its service, was ever promptly at his post, and was true and faithful in the discharge of his duties.

His demeanor was winning and affectionate, and although modesty veiled his ambition, he was worthily proud of the distinctions forced upon him by his fraters.

In the world, a man of practicability and industry, united with unsullied honesty, he was respected among his fellows, as he was beloved by his Masonic brothers.

His ashes repose in a far country, but his memory is enshrined in our hearts, and will not easily fade away.

To the Knights of Orleans Commandery No. 3, who have in him lost their Eminent Commander, the Grand Commander tenders his sincere sympathy.

That due and respectful notice be taken of our loss, this Order will be read at the head of the lines, (the Knights being formed in due array,) in all our Subordinate Commanderies at the Conclave held next after the reception hereof, and our Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers, members of our Grand Commandery, and Commanders and Past Commanders of our Subordinate Commanderies will wear crape at the hilt of their swords for sixty days from the date hereof. Banners will also be trimmed with crape during the same time.

{ SEAL. }

Given at New Orleans, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

JOSEPH P. HORNOR,
Grand Com. of Louisiana.

By order of the Grand Commander:

G. SONTAG, *Grand Recorder.*

Sir J. Q. A. Fellows moved that the address of the R. E. Grand

Commander be referred to a Special Committee of three for distribution, which was adopted, and Sir Knights John Q. A. Fellows, James B. Scot, and Samuel M. Todd were appointed said Committee.

The Grand Treasurer submitted the following report, which was adopted, and the vouchers ordered to be cancelled:

Grand Commandery State of Louisiana,

in account with Emanuel Blessey, Treasurer :

| 1870. | CR. | |
|--|-----|-----------------|
| By Balance..... | | \$235 37 |
| August 6—By cash received..... | | 60 00 |
| 1871. | | |
| February 17—By cash received..... | | 80 00 |
| Total..... | | <u>\$375 37</u> |
| 1870. | DR. | |
| February 18—To cash paid warrant No. 25—R. S. Burke..... | | \$ 5 00 |
| “ “ “ “ “ 26—G. Sontag..... | | 35 00 |
| “ “ “ “ “ 27—P. J. Christian..... | | 2 50 |
| “ “ “ “ “ 28—H. R. Swasey..... | | 150 00 |
| “ “ “ “ “ 29—C. W. Clark..... | | 64 50 |
| “ “ “ “ “ 30—H. R. Swasey..... | | 12 00 |
| 1871. | | |
| February 17—To balance..... | | 106 37 |
| | | <u>\$375 37</u> |
| February 17—By balance due..... | | <u>\$106 37</u> |

Respectfully submitted,

EMANUEL BLESSEY,

Grand Treasurer.

NEW ORLEANS, February 17, 1871.

The following report from the Grand Recorder was submitted, and on motion, adopted and ordered to be printed with the proceedings:

NEW ORLEANS, February 18, 1871.

To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS:

I herewith submit my annual report of the transactions of my office for last year.

Five hundred copies of the proceedings were printed at a cost of \$214 50, and were distributed in the usual manner.

It is with pleasure that I have to report that the three Commanderies of this jurisdiction have made correct returns and paid their dues.

Subjoined is my account current, which I submit for your approval:

GRAND COMMANDERY.

9

G. Sontag, Grand Recorder,

in account with the Grand Commandery of Louisiana :

| 1870. | | DR. | |
|--------------|---|----------|-----------------|
| August | 6—Through Sir Knight W. R. Whitaker..... | \$ 60 00 | |
| 1871. | | | |
| January | 6—To Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2..... | 20 00 | |
| February, | — Orleans Commandery No. 3..... | 35 00 | |
| February 17— | Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1..... | 25 00 | |
| | | | <u>\$140 00</u> |
| 1870. | | CR. | |
| August | 6—By Grand Treasurer..... | \$ 60 00 | |
| 1871. | | | |
| February 18— | By Grand Treasurer..... | 80 00 | |
| | | | <u>\$140 00</u> |

Fraternally and courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,
Grand Recorder.

Sir James B. Scot, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted the following report, which was ordered to be printed with the proceedings:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully report that they have received the proceedings of the following Grand Commanderies:

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| CALIFORNIA, 1868, 1870. | MAINE, 1870. | OHIO, 1870. |
| CONNECTICUT, 1870. | MASSACHUSETTS & R. I, 1870 | PENNSYLVANIA, 1870. |
| GEORGIA, 1870. | MICHIGAN, 1869. | TENNESSEE, 1870. |
| ILLINOIS, 1870. | MISSOURI, 1870. | TEXAS, 1870. |
| INDIANA, 1870. | NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1870. | VERMONT, 1870. |
| IOWA, 1870. | NEW JERSEY, 1870. | VIRGINIA, 1870. |
| KANSAS, 1869, 1870. | NEW YORK, 1870. | WISCONSIN, 1870. |
| KENTUCKY, 1870. | | |

—being all except Alabama, Minnesota, Mississippi, and Maryland, the last having just been formed. Regretting that their absence prevents a full report, we proceed to notice those before us in alphabetical order:

ALABAMA—Proceedings not yet published, but we learn from a friend that, at the annual conclave held at Mobile, December 12, 1870, Sir Abram J. Walker was elected R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Daniel Sayre, E. Grand Recorder—both are excellent selections. The next annual conclave is to be held at Marion, February 2, 1872.

Death has been busy in our sister jurisdiction, and a Lodge of Sorrow was held at Montgomery, February 23, 1871, in memory of those who had fallen victims to his unerring shaft. Several distinguished Templars are among the number: Sir Edmund M. Hastings, the Grand Recorder, died May 21, 1870, after a lingering sickness, which he bore with Christian resignation. We knew him well, and can bear testimony to his devotion to Masonry and many estima-

ble virtues. More recently, the Grand Master of Masons Sir Wm. P. Chilton, Sir Henry P. Lee, and Sir John F. Smith have been summoned to the spirit land. Gallant, good and true, they were endeared to us by a friendship formed and cemented in the days of darkness and trial, and we were looking forward with bright anticipations to the time when we would again feel the pressure of the friendly hand and hear the cheerful greeting of those we loved so well, when the mournful tidings of their death reached us. Bending in submission to the will of God, and sympathizing with our brethren in their bereavement, we hope that when our own summons comes, it may be to rejoin them in "those blessed regions where dwell life and light eternal."

CALIFORNIA—Eleventh annual conclave at San Francisco, October 22, 1868; Sir Isaac S. Titus, R. E. Grand Commander; six Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander reported that he had authorized one of the subordinates to confer the Order of the Red Cross upon a brother who had received the Order of the Temple in a Commandery held under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of England, that Grand Body not recognizing the Order of the Red Cross. The same rule obtains in R. A. Masonry, the constitution of the General Grand Chapter providing that all Chapters may confer the intermediate degrees upon Royal Arch Masons made in English Chapters, the latter bodies not conferring them.

The death of Past Grand Commander Sir Henry Hare Hartley is feelingly announced; an obituary and mourning page testify the esteem in which his memory is held by his surviving companions.

The time of holding the annual conclave was changed from the month of October to that of April, consequently no meeting was held in 1869.

Twelfth annual conclave at San Francisco, April 11, 1870; Sir William F. Knox, R. E. Grand Commander; eight chartered Commanderies and one v. d. represented.

One charter was granted. The Grand Commander says that since the establishment of the first Commandery on the shores of the Pacific, "no jarring note has been heard in our asylums, no order has ever been disregarded in our ranks;" and "while the Order is flourishing, its interests carefully fostered, and its membership increasing as rapidly as can be desired, such increase seems to the outer world to be a slow one." But he holds that of all Masonic organizations the Templar is the most select, and urges upon the Sir Knights a continued exercise of that care which has hitherto attended the admission of candidates. The committee to whom the address was referred endorsed these views, and say:

It is true, as stated by our Grand Commander, that our numbers, both in bodies and membership, as compared with the other Masonic organizations of the jurisdiction, are small; but so it was intended that they should be. Not all who are permitted to enter the outer court of the Temple are deemed worthy to penetrate its inner and hidden mysteries; and, in a State, where there are one hundred and seventy existing lodges, with a membership of nearly nine thousand, it should be deemed one evidence of *real* prosperity that there have been established but nine Commanderies, embracing a membership of something over four hundred and fifty.

The Grand Commander recommends the adoption of the representative system, and pays a fraternal tribute to the memory of Past Grand Commander Sir

Isaac Davis, who died October 22, 1869, full of years and honors. He was the founder of Templar Masonry on the Pacific shores and the first Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery. Appropriate resolutions were adopted and a mourning page is inscribed to his memory.

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence.

CONNECTICUT—Annual conclave at Middletown, March 15, 1870; Sir Amos S. Treat, R. E. Grand Commander; nine Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander announced that peace, harmony and prosperity prevail throughout his jurisdiction. He considers the "grand encampment and review," held October 6, 1869, a success, and says "a great improvement in drill and general appearance was very easily perceptible;" but on that occasion one Commandery absented itself, and had offered no excuse for what he terms "their disobedience and violation of their obligation and duty as Knights Templar." The committee to whom the subject was referred, recommended that no further penalty be imposed on the Commandery for its non-appearance than the reprimand contained in the address, and the report was adopted. In our last report we pointed out the evils that would result from an attempt to make attendance on "field encampments" *obligatory*. In the present case, the subordinate Commandery may have been very properly censured for discourtesy shown to the R. E. Grand Commander, but, as such displays are innovations on the body of Templar Masonry, we cannot agree with that officer that non-attendance at them constitutes either a violation of knightly vows or duty.

The records of the Grand Body from its organization up to 1854 were ordered to be printed: a resolution prohibiting any officer or member of the Grand Commandery from sitting therein unless clothed in full fatigue dress was adopted: a proposition to abolish the requirement of the R. and S. M. degrees as a prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood was rejected: and the Committee on Tactics and Drill, having found it "inexpedient if not impossible" to print the system adopted at the last annual conclave, was discharged.

The Grand Recorder, Sir E. G. Storer, again presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. It is written in a genial and fraternal spirit—Louisiana for 1869 and 1870 being kindly remembered. But, alas, the hand that penned it has been stilled by death, and a circular from the Grand Commander announces that the sad event occurred Sept. 24, 1869. We tender our sympathies to the Sir Knights of Connecticut in their bereavement.

GEORGIA—Ninth annual conclave at Macon, May 25, 1870; Sir Thomas W. Chandler, R. E. Grand Commander; seven Commanderies represented.

After opening in ample form, the Grand Commandery proceeded to the Presbyterian Church, where the public liturgy of the Order was performed, and a learned, eloquent and instructive address delivered by the Grand Prelate, Rev. David Wills.

The annual address is devoted to matters of local interest, and shows that the Grand Commander was a zealous and efficient officer. He reports the following decision:

A Commandery having "*official notice*" of the expulsion by a Blue Lodge of a member thereof, (by "*official notice*," meaning notice of such expulsion under the *seal* of the lodge expelling said member; or the evidence of a Sir

Knight who was present in the lodge at the time the sentence of expulsion was pronounced,) the Eminent Commander should order the Recorder to strike from the roll of the Commandery the Sir Knight so expelled by his lodge, and record the reason for such action.

He pays a knightly tribute to the memory of the lamented Sir Wm. S. Rockwell, Past Deputy Grand Commander, who died January 23, 1870; appropriate resolutions and a memorial tablet record the virtues of the deceased.

Resolutions were adopted providing for the appointment of a "Historiographer"; limiting the office of R. E. Grand Commander to two years; to procure and present a suitable jewel to the retiring Grand Commander; requiring the subordinates to keep a register of attendance, and send up a report of the same with the annual returns; and providing for a public demonstration at the next annual conclave.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a partial report and asked further time; we regret it was not completed in season for publication.

ILLINOIS—Fourteenth annual conclave at Chicago, October 25, 1871; Sir Charles E. Munger, R. E. Grand Commander; thirty-three Commanderies represented.

Immediately after opening, the Grand Commandery being formed in due array, the official order of Grand Master Gardner on the death of Past Grand Master French was read at the head of the lines.

The annual address is chiefly devoted to a recital of the official acts of the Grand Commander. He says our Order was never in a more prosperous condition, peace and harmony prevail, and no case of grievance had been reported during the year. He granted five dispensations for new Commanderies, and recommends "an annual parade and review." He made official visits to a number of the subordinates, and speaks highly of the courtesy and hospitality tendered him and his staff on such occasions: but during these visitations he granted several dispensations to receive and act upon petitions for the orders at special conclaves. He says the candidates were well known, and supposing an official visit would be likely to call out nearly all the members, he judged no injustice would be done in such cases. Perhaps not: but it is one of the fundamental principles of Masonic law that petitions can only be received and balloted on at a regular meeting; the prosperity of individual bodies and the general welfare of the craft demand that it should be preserved inviolate; hence the inherent prerogatives of a Grand Master of Masons confer on him no authority to set it aside, and we do not know by what right a Grand Commander, who is simply a constitutional officer, can assume such power.

After consultation with Grand Master Sir Wm. S. Gardner, he decided that a Templar who had received the orders in Europe, where the Red Cross is not conferred, could not visit or affiliate with a Commandery until he has been created a Red Cross Knight.

At the annual conclave of 1869, the following decision of Grand Master French was referred to Grand Master Sir Wm. Sewell Gardner for his opinion:

After a clear ballot for a candidate, nothing except direct and undoubted testimony of unworthiness, can interfere to prevent the conferring of the orders. No mere notice, without full statement of the reasons for giving it, should be regarded as of any weight.

The opinion of Grand Master Gardner, sustaining this decision, was printed in the appendix, and occasioned considerable comment. In the meantime, the Grand Master found, upon examination, that his opinion was in conflict with the law of the Grand Encampment, and addressed a communication to Grand Commander Munger on the subject, from which we quote. The Grand Master says:

I regret exceedingly that, through haste, I was induced to give an opinion antagonistic to that of my learned predecessor, and contrary to the established law of the Grand Encampment.

Among the decisions of Past Grand Master Palmer stands the following:

"A Knight Templar, in good standing, has the right to object to conferring the Order of Knighthood upon a Companion R. A. Mason, in his Commandery, after such Companion has been balloted for and declared elected; and this, whether the objecting Sir Knight was present at the time of balloting or not; and when such objection is made in open Commandery, verbally, or by a formal communication thereto in writing, the E. Commander is not authorized to proceed and confer the orders upon the candidate. The Sir Knight making the objection cannot be required to disclose his reasons therefor."

This decision the Grand Encampment, at its session held in St. Louis, in September, 1868, approved and confirmed, and it is now a part of Templar law in the United States.

Whatever may be our private opinion, it is our bounden duty to recognize this decision as paramount law, and to support and maintain it.

I deem it my duty to apologize to you for the mistaken opinion sent you, and I would request that you would consider it as "*coram non judice*."

The Committee on Uniform, with a view to correct the want of uniformity in the equipments of the subordinates, submitted a report which was adopted. The regulations adopted are given in detail and vary in some respects from those prescribed by the Grand Encampment. The regulation coat is as follows:

For Sir Knights.—Black cloth, cut military style, single breasted, standing collar; eleven buttons in front, four behind; length, to knee; side edges in pleat; hook and eye at neck gore; sleeve plain, no buttons at cuff; Passion Cross of silver on left side of collar; buttons round or bell, and of silk twist covering.

For Commanders and Past Commanders.—Same as above, except that the coat shall be double breasted, with two rows of buttons; cross on collar to be gold, with rays.

The baldric is also described with great minuteness, but this article does not appear to be a favorite in Illinois, as a resolution was adopted instructing the delegates to the next conclave of the Grand Encampment, to urge the propriety of abandoning it as a part of the uniform.

Five charters were granted, and, by resolution, the Grand Commander was requested to enter into correspondence with Grand Master Gardner as to the right of the Grand Commandery adopting a regulation making the Council degrees a prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood.

The Grand Recorder, Sir James H. Miles, presented an excellent report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-three Grand Commanderies, and giving copious extracts interspersed with judicious comments. Louisiana receives a brief notice, compiled from the New York report, our proceedings having, unfortunately, failed to reach him.

INDIANA—Sixteenth annual conclave at Indianapolis, April 5, 1870; Sir Thomas Newby, R. E. Grand Commander; nineteen Commanderies represented.

In his annual address, the Grand Commander, after giving the obituaries of two distinguished Sir Knights of his jurisdiction, proceeds to render an account of his stewardship. The subordinates are reported in a prosperous condition; the attention paid to ritual and drill having produced gratifying results, he recommends the adoption of a system of "field tactics," and earnestly suggests that some regulation should be adopted in regard to uniform, as the variegated costumes of the Sir Knights subjects them to a comparison with Falstaff's recruits. The subject was referred to a special committee; Sir William Hacker presented the report, which, after recommending the adoption of the Illinois system of tactics and drill, says:

And believing it be the duty of all Sir Knights to equip themselves according to the regulations of the Grand Encampment of the United States, as adopted and published in 1862, we recommend that the officers of the several Commanderies of this jurisdiction use their influence to have the members of their respective Commanderies equip themselves in full, at their earliest convenience.

The report gave rise to considerable discussion, but upon being submitted to a vote by Commanderies, was adopted with only one dissenting. A resolution was afterward passed, requesting the Grand Officers and the representatives of subordinates to appear at the next annual conclave in full uniform. Considering the views held by Sir Knight Hacker on these questions in 1866, the result is truly gratifying and will doubtless tend to promote the prosperity of Templar Masonry throughout the jurisdiction.

The representative system was adopted; several representatives of other jurisdictions received and acknowledged; and the Grand Commander authorized to appoint a representative near the Grand Commanderies of those jurisdictions near which they had no representative, and invite a reciprocation of the courtesy.

Resolutions commemorative of the Knightly dead were adopted and tablets erected to their memory.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of the Grand Commander, Sir Thomas Newby, and reviews the proceedings of nineteen Grand Commanderies in a courteous manner—Louisiana for 1869 receiving favorable mention. In closing, he bids a fraternal adieu to the "knights of the quill correspondential," and retires on "the honors that await a P. G. C."

IOWA—Seventh annual conclave at Clinton, October 18, 1870; Sir Robert F. Bower, R. E. Grand Commander; fifteen chartered Commanderies and five v. d. represented.

The Grand Commander gives an interesting account of his official visitations, in which he was accompanied by the Deputy Grand Commander, Sir C. S. Rollin. They were received with generous hospitality by the subordinates, and the work was exemplified in conferring the orders upon candidates in waiting. These visitations were undertaken in the midst of a Northern winter, and the constant work and exposure proved fatal to Sir Knight Rollin. Taken sick, he was unable to continue his journey; consumption had marked him for its own, and although after several months confinement to his bed, during which every kind attention was bestowed upon him, he rallied for a short time, it was only to sink more rapidly. When the annual conclave met, his earthly career was all but ended; the Grand Commandery in view of his pecuniary condition appropriated \$250 as a slight acknowledgment of his services; and the pub-

lished proceedings contain an official announcement of his death, which occurred on Christmas last, at the age of 36. "He lost his life in the performance of his official duties," is a noble epitaph; but we hope that the official visitations will be made hereafter at a more propitious season, and thus prevent a repetition of such a sacrifice.

In granting dispensations for new Commanderies, Sir Knight Bower bestowed a distinctive Templar name on each, and considers the practice of naming Commanderies after towns or prominent individuals, inappropriate and an evidence of bad taste. For the benefit of new Commanderies, he gives a list of names which he considers appropriate; some of them are eminently so, but the propriety of others is questionable. What claim Pythagoras and the heathen deity Apollo have on Christian chivalry that our Commanderies should be named after them, surpasses our ken.

We regret that the Grand Commander was confined to his house for over seven months, and most of that time to his bed, with a dangerous illness. He pays a beautiful tribute to the memory of Sir B. B. French, Past Grand Master of Templars, and reports a number of decisions which were concurred in, with the exception of one having a local application—the Grand Commandery ruling "that before any Sir Knight can become a recognized petitioner for a new Commandery, he must have dimitted from the Commandery in which he formerly held membership."

Six charters were granted, and the representatives of the new Commanderies admitted to seats, and to vote as members of the Grand Commandery. Iowa follows this practice in all of her Grand Bodies; but it is contrary to Masonic usage, and, as Sir Knight Drummond observes, "in violation of the constitution of the Grand Encampment."

Sir E. A. Guilbert presented his credentials and was cordially received as representative of Louisiana: no grievances were reported: an invitation was received from Holy Cross Commandery No. 10, to attend a banquet, and Sir Knight Guilbert, as Grand Orator, delivered an able and interesting address.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by the genial Grand Recorder, Sir William B. Langridge, who reviews the proceedings of twenty-one Grand Commanderies with his usual ability. Louisiana for 1870 is kindly noticed: he quotes and endorses our remarks against the public use of pompous and inflated Masonic titles, and also those in relation to "field encampments." Our space will not permit us to notice all the good things in the report, but we regret to say that its salient feature is avowed hostility to the Grand Encampment. Last year Guilbert exhausted himself in decrying the Central Grand Body because it is not sufficiently aggressive; now, Langridge sounds an alarm on the dangers of centralization. Blowing hot and cold alternately, our Iowa friends remind us of the Frenchman's flea, "when you put your finger on him, he is not there;" but the following from Sir Knight Drummond's report, ought to restore peace to their troubled minds:

Now the Grand Encampment is made up of representatives of the Grand Commanderies, together representing all the Sir Knights of the nation; the acts of the Grand Encampment are the acts of the great body of Templars through their representatives; and when we are afraid to trust our fraters as a body, we want to leave the institution.

KANSAS—First (we would call it the second) annual conclave at Leavenworth, October 18, 1869; Sir Wm. O. Gould, R. E. Grand Commander; three Commanderies represented. One charter was granted: the representative system adopted: and a special Committee on Ritual and Drill appointed.

Sir John H. Brown presented the report on Correspondence, in which he reviews the proceedings of nine Grand Commanderies, Louisiana included. In reference to the meeting of the Grand Encampment at St. Louis, he says:

It was the good fortune of the writer of this report to attend the seventeenth triennial conclave of this Grand Body, held in St. Louis, commencing on the 15th and closing on the 18th day of September, 1868, and there, with thousands of others, to partake of the boundless hospitalities of the Sir Knights of St. Louis and Missouri. It was eat and drink, all the while, and we think it was drink most of the time, with a little frolicking thrown in to relieve the monotony. All this is good in its proper time and place; but we must confess we are unable to perceive any great amount of good accomplished by such proceedings. Representatives from every State in the Union make up this Grand Body; and if they do their duty, as faithful servants, they will have work and business enough to occupy their time for the few days they are in session. We trust the coming session in Baltimore will be characterized by labors resulting in greater good to the Order; that something may be done from which we may realize some practical benefit; as, for instance, the adoption of uniform tactics and drill; also, work and lectures of the Orders, and making the proper provisions to compel each State to adopt and practice the same.

We hope that "drink most of the time" will never again be cited as a feature of the triennial conclaves of the Grand Encampment.

The second annual conclave was held at Atchison, October 17, 1870; Sir Wm. O. Gould, R. E. Grand Commander; four Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander reports the Order generally throughout the State as in a healthy condition; urging upon the subordinates the importance of carefully scrutinizing the character of applicants for the honors of knighthood, he correctly remarks "because a man happens to belong to a Lodge and Chapter, *this alone* does not qualify him to become a knight." He denounces intemperance and profanity, and adds: "Let us keep high the standard of our Order; let us respect ourselves, and others will respect us." The death of Past Grand Master B. B. French is feelingly announced, and a mourning page inscribed to his memory.

A resolution was adopted instructing the delegates to the Grand Encampment to vote in favor of making the Council degrees prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood; and one, declaring none but Eminent Commanders or Past Eminent Commanders eligible to hold the first four offices in the Grand Commandery, was rejected.

The report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Sir John H. Brown, who reviews with knightly courtesy the proceedings of sixteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1870 included.

KENTUCKY—Twenty-third annual conclave at Louisville, June 9, 1870; Rev. Sir John M. Worrall, R. E. Grand Commander; eleven Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander says that peace, harmony and brotherly love prevail throughout the entire jurisdiction; not a case of complaint or discord had been reported, and the subordinates are in a healthful and prosperous condition. He

refers to the decision of the Grand Encampment that "the ritual of the Orders of Knighthood should not be written," and holds that it applies with equal force to the use of any books supposed to contain the rituals: on his recommendation, resolutions were adopted declaring it to be the duty of the first four Grand Officers to visit and instruct the subordinates in the work, and "that any Commandery using or permitting the use of any written or printed ritual subjects itself to discipline and the liability of forfeiting its charter."

At the last annual conclave the representative system was adopted, and among the appointments reported by the Grand Commander we find that of R. E. Sir Samuel M. Todd, for Louisiana, with the rank of Past Grand Generalissimo.

The report on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Commanderies, our own included, and is written in that genial style which characterizes the productions of the Grand Recorder, Sir William C. Munger.

MAINE—Annual conclave at Portland, May 4, 1870; Sir Charles H. McLellan, R. E. Grand Commander; eleven Commanderies represented.

The annual address is an excellent paper and contains many valuable suggestions. Nothing had occurred to disturb the harmony and peace of our Order during the year, and the Grand Commander thinks the increase in numbers as large as our real prosperity demands. In reference to conferring the orders he says:

I would that I could see some remedy for the practice in some of our bodies where the jurisdiction is large, of conferring the whole of the orders at one time upon very many candidates, who are thus deprived of the solemn and lasting impression which a dignified and proper conferring of them, would and ought to produce. Solemnity is scarcely ever, (in ceremonies like our own), evoked among a crowd; and to retain a clear and lasting impression, the mind should be free from the external effects and extraneous ideas, which companionship necessarily must produce.

Well and truly said. When the peculiar character of a portion of the ritual is considered, the incongruity of communicating (for it cannot be called conferring) the Order of the Temple to several candidates at the same time must be apparent to the least reflecting mind, and, in our opinion, the convenience of a Commandery is a poor excuse for a practice which tends to reduce the solemnity of our ceremonies to mere frivolity.

The Grand Body having discountenanced public parades, except when Masonic work was to be performed, he refused permission to the subordinates to appear in public celebrations, even when sympathizing with the objects, being conscious that they were not Masonic. He suggests that more time should be given to the annual conclave, as the hurrying up the business in one brief session does not comport with "that dignity and careful deliberation which should characterize the proceedings of a Grand Commandery of Knights Templar"; and a resolution was adopted prolonging the conclave until all business is properly attended to and the orders exemplified. In reference to another subject, he remarks:

I will here take occasion to say, that I deem it of immense importance to our welfare that we make ourselves masters of the valuable knowledge imparted to

us, through the Reports on Foreign Correspondence. I have reason to think that we have not paid due attention to this part of our printed proceedings, which informs us of the well-being and conduct of bodies appertaining to the Order in other jurisdictions; and it is very gratifying to me, as well as a matter of pride, to state that in examining the reports from other bodies, which have been sent to me, I find nothing which will surpass the able summary of the movements of foreign bodies, with which our own Committee on Foreign Correspondence has favored us, and I again suggest that it receive careful attention; as also that means be taken to make the body of our members more familiar with the transactions of this Grand Body than has been customary. Perhaps the best mode of effecting this would be, to read in open Commandery the more important portions of our printed proceedings.

The Maine reports are justly entitled to the above meed of praise, and we are gratified that the estimate placed upon them by the corps correspondential has been so cordially endorsed at home. And in this connection it is not too much to say, that the marked improvement during the past few years in the reports presented to the different Grand Commanderies, augurs well for the future of our institution, for it is to these reports, more than anything else, that the present united and prosperous condition of Templar Masonry is to be attributed.

The field encampment held on Cushing's Island, August, 1869, appears to have been a success; but the attendant expenses were large, and the assessments in some localities were felt as a heavy tax. In deference to the general sentiment of the subordinates, no encampment was ordered for the present year; but it was voted that the Commanderies be invited to assemble at Bangor for annual review, on the day succeeding the dedication of the Masonic Hall in that city by the Grand Lodge.

The reports of the associate Grand Officers show commendable attention to duty in visiting the subordinates, and corroborate the statements of their Chief in regard to the harmony and prosperity prevailing throughout the jurisdiction.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by Sir Josiah H. Drummond; excellent as his former reports were, this one surpasses them all, and we regret that our limited space will not permit us to quote from it as freely as we desire. Louisiana receives a kind and extended notice; referring to Grand Commander Rican's address being printed in French with a translation, he says:

This has led us since to devote some thought to the practice, in some jurisdictions, of establishing bodies to work in foreign languages, and we believe the practice is a bad one.

This country is American; neither British, French, German, Spanish nor Italian. The well-being of the country demands that the people should assimilate and not maintain their former national peculiarities and divisions. We should be *one people*—Americans. We hold it to be the duty of a foreigner who adopts this as his country to conform to American ideas so far as nationality is concerned: and his first duty to become familiar with the national language: if he does not, the direct result is to divide the people into clans.

So in Masonry: if bodies are chartered to work and do work in other than the national language, the immediate result is the division into clans, and the creation of rival interests. The craft should be homogeneous, and whatever tends to an opposite result should be discouraged. Our observation, so far as it has extended, confirms us in the correctness of these views.

We fully concur in the above. But it must be remembered that Masonry was introduced into Louisiana when it was a Spanish Province: French was then the dominant language, and it continued such long after the Territory was admitted as a State into the American Union: even now it is the mother tongue of many

native born as well as adopted citizens. Grand Commander Ricau spoke French more fluently than English, but Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, of which he was a member, has within the last few years ceased to work in the French language. Such is also the case with a number of lodges in this jurisdiction, and we have no doubt that before many years the few lodges at present working in foreign tongues will also adopt the national language.

He quotes, with approval, our remarks on "field encampments," and, in relation to the same subject, under the head of Missouri, says:

Against making it *obligatory* upon the members of the Order to attend these encampments, we desire to enter our earnest protest: we have very grave doubts as to their *utility*, even when voluntary: but that a Knight is bound to leave his business for a week and incur a large expense to attend an encampment, we do not believe; nor do we that any Grand Commandery has *power* to impose any such duty upon the members of its subordinates. We are bound to obey all lawful edicts, etc., but an edict beyond the limit contemplated in the nature of the association, is clearly void. No such duties were ever contemplated by any one when he joined the Order. Very many of our members are not able to incur the expense, or sacrifice so much of their time: to do so would be a violation of their duty to themselves and their families. Indeed, when such encampments are voluntary, many, who really cannot afford the expense and sacrifice, are induced by urging to join in it, to gratify their brethren and to avoid seeming to be mean. We believe that if a Grand Commandery should discipline a Sir Knight for not obeying such an edict, the Grand Encampment would hold the action to be beyond the powers of the Grand Commandery. We trust this matter will receive the earnest attention of Sir Knights, as, if the practice is to become universal and permanent, a serious blow will be given to the prosperity of Knighthood.

Again, in his review of New Hampshire, commenting on the opinion advanced by Grand Commander Tufts, that a failure to obey a summons to attend a "military encampment" is a violation of obligation, he remarks:

For the reasons given in our review of Missouri, we dissent *in toto* from this view of the obligation of Templars. Though a Knight does vow to obey due summonses sent him from the Grand Commandery, the language cannot be taken *literally*. Such summonses must pertain to matters over which the Grand Commandery has control. It has not control over the time and means of the Sir Knights, that it can arbitrarily command both without their consent. Such vows are limited to the duties of Templar Masonry.

The following from his notice of Kentucky is too good to omit:

The Grand Commandery in a body visited the "Eastern Lunatic Asylum," and returned and resumed labor after a visit of two hours. We have noticed that others have visited these Asylums; among them, Iowa, but in the latter case we find no record of *its returning from the visit!*

In our last report we copied his remarks upon intemperance. They have been noticed and endorsed by all the committees who have reviewed the Maine proceedings, and he again urges that the only remedy lies in "*absolute abstinence from all intoxicating drinks on Masonic occasions.*" As his remarks on this subject were called forth by what happened at St. Louis, we sincerely hope they will prevent similar scenes at Baltimore in September next.

There is much more we would like to notice in this excellent report, but our space will only permit us to give the following from his conclusion:

It is one of the gratifying features of the condition of Knighthood at the present time, that its votaries seem to appreciate the importance of labor: that

they show by their practice that they understand that what costs no labor is worth little: and accordingly we have *working men*, as a rule, in all the departments.

"Work is sweet, for God has blest
Honest work with quiet rest—
Best below and rest above,
In the mansions of his love;
When the work of life is done,
When the battle's fought and won."

While this is true of Masonry generally, it is particularly so of the Orders of Knighthood. We have had occasion to know something of the condition of Masonry in all its branches: and this knowledge enables us to say that more energy, activity, zeal, and, therefore, prosperity prevail in the Conclave, than in the Lodge, the Chapter, or the Council. We say this in no spirit of exultation, but only to stimulate the Sir Knights to greater deeds of charity and pure beneficence. The bugle of the Warder is heard from Passamaquoddy Bay to the Golden Gate: our Beauseant floats—"still full high advanced"—on every breeze from Superior to the Gulf: wherever distress is to be relieved, the widow or orphan to be protected, or the Christian religion to be defended, the Pilgrim Warrior is found: we are animated to still greater exertion by the example of those "gone before" and the promise of the great hereafter:

"And the air is full of music, gently floating overhead,
Songs of courage for the living, songs of victory for the dead."

MARYLAND—We learn incidentally that the Grand Commandery of Maryland was constituted and its officers installed on the 23d of January, 1871; Past Grand Commander J. L. Hutchinson, of Pennsylvania, acting as proxy of Grand Master Gardner on the occasion. We extend a cordial welcome to the new Grand Body, with our best wishes for its success and prosperity.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—A beautifully printed pamphlet of 162 pages contains the proceedings of this Grand Commandery for the year 1870. A special assembly was held at Providence, R. I., Dec. 31, 1869, to attend the funeral obsequies of P. G. M. Sir William Field, whose memory is endeared to the fraternity for his faithful adherence to our institution during the anti-masonic crusade, 1826 to 1834. At the semi-annual assembly held in the same city, May 27, 1870, Grand Commander Dean announced the death of R. E. Sir John Hews, on the 17th of March, at the ripe age of 83, and whose fidelity had also been tested during the same period.

In his address, the Grand Commander refers to the atrocities alleged to have been committed by Spanish officials upon Masons in Cuba, and is of the opinion that it is the duty of our Government "to insist that every treaty with Spain should contain clauses securing to our citizens protection in the exercise of their Masonic rights as in the enjoyment of religious freedom." But, however much we may sympathize with our brethren in Cuba or elsewhere, we believe that any attempt of our Masonic Grand Bodies to influence political action would result in bringing inevitable ruin upon our institution.

A large portion of the address is occupied with documents having reference to an attempt by the three oldest Commanderies in Rhode Island to form a Grand Commandery for that State, and the remarks of the Grand Commander thereon. The consent of Grand Master Gardner having been applied for, he sent the communication to R. E. Sir Knight Dean with his opinion that as Grand Master of Templars he had no authority to act in the matter, as the constitution of the Grand Encampment declares that "the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island is recognized as holding jurisdiction over both

these States." Thereupon Grand Commander Dean addressed a letter to one of the delegates to the proposed convention, in which after referring to the unconstitutionality of the movement, he stated that if all the Commanderies in Rhode Island were unanimous in desiring a separation, it would be for the Templars of Massachusetts to decide whether they would consent to the forming of another Grand Commandery within their jurisdiction. The officer intrusted with the delivery of this letter was also instructed to read to the delegates the decision of Grand Master Gardner: this appears to have settled the matter, for a resolution to refer this portion of the address to a special committee was withdrawn after explanations by, and at the request of, the representatives of the Rhode Island Commanderies.

Annual assembly at Boston, October 28, 1870; Sir Benjamin Dean, R. E. Grand Commander; twenty-two chartered Commanderies and four U. D. represented. Two charters were granted, and two dispensations continued.

The orders were exemplified at the semi-annual assembly, and a Committee on Work appointed. The committee presented their report, from which we learn that many variations have been introduced into the ritual, and consequently a great want of uniformity exists in the work: resolutions were adopted with a view of holding a convention of all the subordinates to decide what is the correct work, which, when accepted by the Grand Body, is to be taught the subordinates by one or more Grand Lecturers. The reports of the associate Grand Officers also refer to this want of uniformity, but in all other respects the subordinates are represented in a prosperous and harmonious condition. The Grand Recorder, Sir Alfred F. Chapman, acknowledges receipt of the proceedings of sister Grand Commanderies, our own for 1870 included: with commendable zeal he is endeavoring to obtain a complete copy of the printed proceedings of the several Grand Commanderies; some are out of print, but Louisiana is one of those which are complete and bound in durable form.

In his annual address, Grand Commander Dean refers to the increasing frequency of "public Templar displays in full regalia," and remarks that, notwithstanding the expostulations of his predecessor, the Commanderies "seem to have stepped into the shoes of the engine companies," who were wont "to dress themselves in red flannel shirts and gay helmets, and taking their machines with them, visit distant cities and parade the streets, the observed of all observers." Nor is this comparison overdrawn, as the subordinates seem to do "that which is right in their own eyes": one Commandery had appeared as a Commandery on horseback, in full Templar costume, in a strictly civic procession; another had visited the New Dominion, and Templar picnics are of frequent occurrence. Even the Grand Commander granted a dispensation to a Commandery for no other purpose than to make a public display in a neighboring city, and defends his action on the ground "that common fairness required that the Commandery which obeyed the Masonic law and asked for a dispensation, should have as large liberties as those who took without asking." He attributes this state of things to the fault of those who preceded him in office, "in not stopping the first departure from the right line;" and very correctly remarks:

Every Commander is enjoined to permit nothing to be done by virtue of the charter, except that which it authorizes. The authority of a Commandery is to

assemble, as a Commandery, only in the place named in its charter, and for the purposes named in its charter. Everything else is beyond its power, except by dispensation from the Grand Commander.

A Commandery of Knights Templar has no more right to march through the public streets, as a Commandery, and with its Templar costume, without a dispensation, than has a Lodge of Master Masons without a dispensation from the Grand Master.

But while holding this opinion, instead of exercising his authority and issuing an order, he had deemed it the better plan to bring the matter before the Grand Body, as he supposes that it was with a view of controlling this desire for display, so as not injuriously to effect the whole Order, that at the last semi-annual conclave the subject of a general encampment of all the subordinates was referred to the Grand Council, with full powers. In reference to this, he states that a circular was sent to all the Commanderies to ascertain how many of them desired to respond, and in what numbers: but the replies showed such a diversity of opinion in regard to it that the project was abandoned.

The address was referred to a special committee, and as the whole subject of public displays and parades has been brought before the Grand Body in such a manner that cognizance must be taken of it, we will look with interest for their report.

Three memorial pages, on which are recorded the names and virtues of the knightly dead, are appended to the proceedings.

MICHIGAN—Thirteenth annual conclave at Detroit, June 1, 1869; Sir J. H. Armstrong, R. E. Grand Commander; twenty-one Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is an able and interesting document, referring to the principles of our Order, and the duties assumed by its members, he says:

If there be one among us who has grown careless of his knightly duties, or has been guilty of conduct unbefitting the Christian Knight, let him retire to the lone chamber of reflection, ponder well his faults, resolve upon a tour of penance, and a final triumph over all those obstacles that beset the path of the weary pilgrim journeying toward the goal of Christian light and knowledge.

Anciently our Order acquired its renown at the point of the sword; was in fact, as well as in theory, a military institution. But while the ancient knights were eager to perfect themselves in military tactics, the moral drill was not forgotten. It is difficult to reconcile our idea of an ancient Knight with that of intemperance, profanity, or any other vice. To enfeeble his strong right arm by the use of intoxicating draughts, or to utter the name of Deity with irreverent lips, would have been to prove false to his high trust; and should the Sir Knight of to-day be less pure and noble, while his duties and obligations remain the same?

He is the worthy Sir Knight who feels the highest reverence for God, with whom every manly virtue becomes a part of knightly honor, whose mind is never swayed by considerations of fear or personal advantage, and who is ever ready to draw his sword in defence of that cause to which it has been so solemnly dedicated.

He announces that peace, harmony, and a degree of prosperity hitherto unprecedented prevail throughout the jurisdiction. He granted dispensations for three new Commanderies: gives an interesting account of his official visits: recommends a field encampment, and, having attended the meeting of the Grand Encampment at St. Louis, indulges in a glowing description of that festival.

Three charters were granted and one restored: by resolution, Commanderies under dispensation were permitted to vote at the election for Grand Officers, the same as chartered Commanderies—we have heretofore protested against this violation of the statutes of our Order: a committee was appointed to compile a uniform drill for the subordinates: permission was very properly refused to a Commandery to hold meetings and confer the Orders in a town different from that in which its regular meetings were held: and the Grand Commander requested to hold a field encampment at such time and place as might be deemed advisable by the Grand Body.

The Grand Recorder, Sir O. Bourke, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of nineteen Grand Commanderies, our own for 1868 included, are briefly but courteously noticed.

MISSOURI—Tenth annual conclave at St. Louis, October 4, 1870; Sir James F. Aglar, R. E. Grand Commander; thirteen Commanderies represented.

In rendering an account of his stewardship, the Grand Commander states that he had granted dispensations for two new Commanderies: one of them received a charter, the dispensation of the other was not renewed. He says the "several Commanderies are in the habit of making an annual parade on Good Friday, and end by a banquet, speeches, etc."; and the Grand Commandery concurred with him in the opinion, that, as our Order is a Christian organization, the anniversary of the sacrifice on Calvary would be more appropriately observed by going to church than by "*making ourselves merry.*" He recommended that the annual dues to the Grand Commandery be increased from one dollar to two dollars and fifty cents per member, and that the fee for dispensations for new Commanderies be made \$150 instead of \$100: but, as it was believed such an increase would prove burdensome, the annual dues were fixed at one dollar and fifty cents. For the sake of uniformity in the dress of members of the subordinates when on parade, he says:

I would recommend that all Commanderies chartered after this date require their members to furnish themselves with a regular military, single-breasted coat, with metal buttons, and that all Companions, or Sir Knights, joining any Commandery in this jurisdiction, after this date, be also required to do the same.

The recommendation, with the exception of the metal buttons, which were deemed neither appropriate nor desirable, was adopted.

As a measure of economy, he suggested that instead of holding the annual conclave at St. Louis, in October, it should be held "in the field" at the same time and place as the annual encampment; but the proposition was laid over till 1871, and at the close of the session the resolution ordering an annual camp was repealed!

The field encampment was held at Columbia, Boone county, May 26, 1870, and continued six days. At the time the "*Freemason*," edited by the Grand Recorder, announced that "the affair was a success." The Grand Commander, however, after stating that nine Commanderies reported on that occasion, and that five failed to do so, says:

I was very much surprised and grieved to find that there were any Commanderies in the State who would disobey the orders of the Grand Commandery. It was my duty, as the representative of this Grand Body, to see that its orders

were not disobeyed by its subordinates without any notice being taken of it, and I felt it my imperative duty to suspend two of the above Commanderies, Weston and Liberty. These two Commanderies I suspended until the meeting of this Grand Body, *not deeming their excuse any justification of their action in not obeying the order of this Grand Body.* I was also influenced in my action somewhat on account of the previous dereliction of duty of these two Commanderies, they having failed time and again to pay any attention to orders issued by me and the Grand Commandery, through the office of the Grand Recorder.

The other three Commanderies he "reprimanded by letter." The subject was referred to a special committee, and on their recommendation the suspension of one Commandery was withdrawn and the reprimand on two removed; the excuses offered being deemed sufficient, and the Commanderies "fully recognizing the duty to obey the orders of the Grand Commandery and its Grand Commander." The reprimand on one Commandery was approved, "there being no evidence of any exertion to meet the orders of the Grand Commander"; and the suspension of another continued, no statement being made in its behalf.

If this is a "success," we fail to see it. In our last report we expressed our opinion in regard to field encampments, and pointed out what might be expected if attendance at them was made obligatory. Under the head of Maine, *ante* page 19, will be found the views of Sir Knight Drummond on the same subject. We fully agree with him that our "vows are limited to the duties of Templar Masonry," and that due summonses "must pertain to matters over which the Grand Commandery has control." We hold that the Grand Commandery has transcended its powers in disciplining its subordinates, and believe that such will be the decision of the Grand Encampment.

The appendix contains the "proceedings at Camp Gardner," including the orders issued by the Grand Commander. The encampment continued *four* days (instead of *six* as stated in the address) "and was conducted under the strictest discipline." The circular, accompanying "general order No. 1," directs the E. Commanders of the subordinates to *summons all their members*, "per my order"; and "general order No. 2," after stating that tents will be furnished by the Grand Commandery, says:

Each Commandery is expected to make their own arrangements for rations, and bring with them the necessary table and cooking utensils and fixtures; and each Sir Knight will provide himself with a pair of blankets, and every four men will supply themselves with a lantern for their tent, also with a spade and mallet. The Sir Knights on parade will assemble in full dress uniform. In addition to that, every member should provide himself with a fatigue dress for ordinary camp duty. The St. Louis Commanderies have engaged a band, consequently other Commanderies in the State will be saved that expense, as only one band is necessary in the camp.

Other orders relate to the general routine of duty in camp, from reveille at sunrise to tattoo at 11 P. M.; but it is unnecessary to give details. The above is sufficient to show that the subordinates were reprimanded and suspended not for a breach of Masonic duty, but because they failed to obey a summons to spend their time and means in playing soldier.

The Grand Recorder, Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, presented an interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, in which Louisiana is courteously noticed. He favors public parades; is of opinion that it is better to make field encampments

a voluntary rather than a compulsory affair; but if made obligatory, he does not think the Grand Encampment could have anything to do with the matter. We do.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—Annual conclave at Concord, September 27, 1870; Sir Henry O. Kent, R. E. Grand Commander; seven Commanderies represented.

The annual address is a clear business paper, devoted to local matters. The death of Past Grand Master Sir B. B. French, who was a native of New Hampshire, was feelingly announced, also that of Sir John Knowlton, their late Grand Treasurer. During the year the subordinates had made steady and commendable progress, and the Grand Commander believes that much greater care is now exercised in the selection of applicants for the Orders of Knighthood than formerly. The representative system was adopted, and several Sir Knights presented their credentials and were appropriately received as the representatives of sister Grand Bodies. A system of work was adopted, and the subordinates urged to uniform themselves.

The field encampment held August, 1869, resulted in financial embarrassment, and, in order to cancel the liabilities of the Grand Commandery, it was resolved that each subordinate should voluntarily assess itself the sum of one dollar for each member thereof.

We are glad to see that the committee appointed last year to examine the records of the Grand Commandery from its organization in 1826, was instructed to have such portions printed as they might deem proper.

A resolution discountenancing the use of intoxicating liquors was adopted. The venerable Grand Recorder, Sir Horace Chase, was at his own request permitted to retire from office; the Grand Commander also declined reelection; and resolutions expressive of the esteem in which both Sir Knights were held by the Grand Body, and in acknowledgment of their faithful services were adopted.

It was voted to print an extract only of the report on Foreign Correspondence. As printed, it is a brief summary of the doings of twenty-five Grand Commanderies, Louisiana included, and the fraternal spirit which pervades it causes us to regret that it was not published entire. The name of the committee is not given—but whoever wrote it need not be ashamed of his work.

NEW JERSEY—Twelfth annual conclave at Trenton, September 13, 1870; Sir Isaac A. Nichols, R. E. Grand Commander; ten Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is chiefly devoted to a recital of his official acts. Deeming it inexpedient to interfere with the rules and regulations of the subordinates, he refused dispensations to elect and confer the orders at the same conclave. His report of official visitations, and those of his associate Grand Officers, represent the subordinates in a prosperous condition and the orders conferred in a creditable manner, although there is a lack of uniformity in the work: but this will doubtless soon be corrected as the report of the Committee on Ritual was approved and adopted.

He warns the Sir Knights against the following "enemies" of our Order: "Unnecessary public processions, funeral corteges, subordination to the lower orders of Masonry in public, changes and innovations in our ritual"; and his views were concurred in by the Grand Body. So far as "unnecessary public processions" are concerned, we fully agree with Sir Knight Nichols; and we would like to see the Templar escort at lodge funerals dispensed with, not for

the reason he assigns, but because humility and mourning are more appropriate on such occasions than ostentation and display. We are not certain that we understand the phrase "subordination to the lower orders of Masonry in public": but if it refers to one or more Commanderies acting as escort to the Grand Lodge when it appears in public, we have yet to learn that such action "will do us harm and pervert our principles." We believe quite the reverse, and hold it our duty, on all occasions, to show respect to the Grand Lodge, because to it our first allegiance is due, and our very existence as Templars depends on remaining Master Masons in good standing. The application of the term "lower orders" to the symbolic degrees is therefore inappropriate, and when endorsed by an associate Grand Body is, to say the least, discourteous. The Lodge can get along very well without the Commandery: but what would the Commandery be without the Lodge? Shoulder straps are well enough in their place, but the lambskin is the badge of a Mason: no injury can result to our Order from appearing in *Masonic* processions which are under the control of the Grand Lodge, whereas one of the greatest "enemies" Templar Masonry has to contend against is the passion for *independent* public parades and the subordination of the Masonic principle to tactics and drill.

Sir Thomas J. Corson, from the special committee appointed at the last annual conclave, reported that the testimonial expressive of the obligations of the Grand Body for the knightly hospitality extended it by St. John's Commandery No. 4, of Philadelphia, at its semi-centennial anniversary, had been presented to that body before a large and brilliant audience at the Academy of Music, in the City of Brotherly Love: Sir Knight Corson was the orator on the occasion, and the presentation speech is in his happiest vein.

The versatile Grand Recorder, Sir Thomas J. Corson, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence—an *olla podrida* of wit, humor, sarcasm, and common sense compounded *secundum artem*. It has been ungallantly said that a woman is bound to have the last word, but we will bet odds on Sir Thomas against all the women in Christendom. Clothed in armor of self-complacent incorrigibility, he is invulnerable to the shafts of criticism, and the wight who ventures to assail this inveterate joker soon finds his own weapon turned against himself.

The present report is the best we have seen from his pen, and reviews the doings of twenty-one Grand Commanderies and the conclave of the Grand Encampment held at St. Louis. Louisiana receives favorable mention: he quotes and approves our remarks on field encampments, but regrets that we advocate the right of a member to stay the progress of an elected candidate without assigning a reason, and says "we refer more fully to the subject elsewhere:" but there is nothing "elsewhere" in the report on the subject, if we except the decision of Grand Master Gardner, which called forth our remarks. That decision has since been acknowledged by the Grand Master to be in direct conflict with the established law of the Grand Encampment, and he has requested that it be considered *coram non judice*. Besides our views are sustained by the practice of a great majority of the jurisdictions in the United States, and we are sorry Sir James entertains a different opinion.

There are many things "wise and otherwise" in this report we would like to notice, but we have only space for the following extract from the conclusion, in memory of Grand Master French.

A wail of woe comes borne to us upon the sighing breeze, chilling the hearts and dimming the eyes of Templars throughout the land. Death has invaded our ranks, and one of our most valued standard-bearers has been stricken down. The pure, the gentle, the kind has been taken. The poet, the scholar, the orator has fallen. The voice whose musical symphonies thrilled so many hearts is silent. The eyes which ever beamed with love, now lack their lustre. All that was human of Benjamin Brown French has passed from our sight, for he is dead. Did we say "dead?" Nay, for such men never die. While Templar Masonry lives, will his memory be green. To such men death never comes, for their works are immortal. More than ten years ago we received from him the accolade of a Templar. We feel his sword upon our shoulder now. We cannot make him dead. But so it is, and all chivalry mourns, for his place cannot be filled. We bow to Heaven's high decree, and we must be silent in presence of the Death Angel. We cannot understand the ways of Providence, but must quietly submit.

NEW YORK—Fifty-seventh annual conclave at Utica, October 11, 1870; Sir Henry C. Preston, R. E. Grand Commander; forty-one Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander delivered an interesting address in which he announces that the year then closing had been one of uninterrupted harmony, prosperity and peace. He reports a number of decisions all of which were concurred in, and from which we quote the following, with the remark that No. 5 refers to a local regulation and we give it simply to show the practice of New York in such cases.

1. That an objection to a candidate made after he has received the Order of the Red Cross, operates precisely the same as the reconsideration of a favorable ballot previous to the conferring of either order.

2. That the Commander would be subject to discipline should he proceed to confer the orders in the face of an objection.

3. Charges need not necessarily be preferred against a candidate to whom objection is made, nor can he demand that charges be made and trial had.

4. The candidate having paid the fee and received one order, is not by that fact entitled to the remaining ones.

5. A candidate having been estopped after receiving the Order of the Red Cross, is not, therefore, entitled to receive back any portion of the fee. In Masonic bodies the fee paid is the initiation fee, for the first degree or order. The subsequent ones are conferred as a reward for fidelity, proficiency and skill, and without charge.

He paid a knightly tribute to the memory of Sir E. M. Hastings, of Alabama, and Past Grand Master Sir B. B. French: appropriate resolutions were adopted and memorial tablets are appended to the proceedings.

He advocates an extension of the system of tactics and drill to make it suitable for street displays, and on his suggestion Sir Orrin Welch was requested to make the necessary additions.

He considers the regulations prescribing the uniform as not sufficiently definite, and recommends the appointment of a committee "to draft a complete description of the uniform as laid down by the Grand Encampment, with exact measurements for every possible detail," in order to check "the tendency on the part of individuals and manufacturers to add a little here and change a little there." The recommendation was concurred in, and a committee appointed.

The reports of the associate Grand Officers show them to have been zealous in the discharge of their duties. In obedience to the orders of the Grand Com-

mander they had visited the subordinates, and represent them in a prosperous condition: but on the "uniform" question one of them says:

Our Knights do not all wear the same dress. It is true all wear frock coats, as the "Bill of Dress" requires. But some wear single, and some wear double breasted coats; some have gilt and some have covered buttons. It seems strange to a visitor to go into one Commandery and see the members dressed as generals with double rows of gilt buttons, and then go into another Commandery and see the officers in single breasted coats with black buttons, looking for all the world like a lot of innocent parsons, instead of members of the church militant.

We hope when the Committee on Uniform reports, that they will go for those brass buttons.

One charter was granted: three thousand dollars was appropriated from the funds of the Grand Body in aid of the Hall and Asylum Fund: and a committee appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to the retiring Grand Commander.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Sir John W. Simons, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Commanderies in his usual able and discriminating style: Louisiana receiving courteous and extended notice.

There is much in this valuable and interesting report that we would like to transfer to our pages, but our limited space forbids. But his views on the practice of conferring the Order of the Temple upon more than one candidate at a time, are so fully in accord with our own opinion on the subject, that we commend it to the attentive consideration of the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction:

Were it in our power, we would provide the remedy in the shape of a vermillion edict prohibiting wholesale work, as tending to degrade the most solemn and impressive ceremony to the level of the mere recitation of so many words, full of sound and fury, but signifying nothing, because deprived of the element most essential to success, the complete isolation of the candidate from all extraneous circumstances, and from everything tending in any degree to lessen his sense of individual responsibility. We have been chagrined beyond measure, and have more than once protested at the absurdity, to use no harsher term, of certain parts of the ceremony, which we cannot here specify, being communicated to half a dozen onlookers, for it is a misuse of terms to call them candidates, at one and the same time. We repeat, that if the anxiety of Commanderies to get through the largest possible amount of work in the shortest space of time cannot be curbed by the sense of propriety, then the strong hand should be used, and the force of law interposed, to maintain the dignity of the Order and secure to its ceremonies their appropriate value.

OHIO—Twenty-eighth annual conclave at Cincinnati, September 13, 1870; Sir Heman Ely, R. E. Grand Commander; number of Commanderies represented not stated—a Committee on Credentials was appointed, but their report, if presented, does not appear in the proceedings.

The annual address is chiefly devoted to matters of local interest. The Grand Commander reports continued prosperity throughout the entire jurisdiction, and a very general expressed desire "that those who connect themselves with our Order, especially those who act as Prelates, should be men of thorough Christian principle." He pays an affectionate tribute to the memory of the knightly dead: Past Grand Master Sir B. B. French; Sir Howard Mathews, Past Grand Master of Masons of Ohio, and others: suitable resolutions were adopted, and memorial tablets set apart to the memory of each.

Sir Thomas Sparrow, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, reported that the decisions of the Grand Commander had been "carefully examined," and recommended their approval "as modified by the committee." The report was adopted, and the first decision reads as follows:

The decisions of the Grand Master of Knights Templar of the U. S., when approved by the Grand Encampment, are binding on the Commanderies of this State, *unless they conflict with the statutes of this Grand Commandery.*

The italics are our own, and we suppose this is one of the modifications referred to. It is in direct antagonism to the constitution of the Grand Encampment, and looks like an attempt to make the Supreme Grand Body subordinate to the Grand Commandery of Ohio. We are surprised at such an assumption, and hope that the objectionable clause will soon be expunged from their statute book.

Two charters were granted, and resolutions of thanks to the retiring Grand Recorder, Sir John D. Caldwell, for the able and efficient manner in which he had for years discharged the duties of his office, were adopted.

Sir Robert Gwynn presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of nineteen Grand Commanderies, our own included, and gives a brief notice of the doings of each. This is in marked contrast with his very full and able report of last year, and the reason is assigned in his conclusion. He says:

And now, Sir Knights, having, in a manner unsatisfactory to themselves, gone through the proceedings of the Grand Jurisdictions placed in their hands, your committee draw their labors to a close, with the assurance that they have discovered nothing in their research that in any degree tends to mar the peace and prosperity that prevails in all the jurisdictions.

To some of the Sir Knights of this, as well as other jurisdictions, your committee feel that they owe an apology for the very short and unsatisfactory manner in which they have discharged the duty assigned them, but they have to console them the conviction that they have the approval of the Sir Knights who last year objected so strongly to the length of their report. Having thus complied as nearly as possible with the wishes of our Fraters on both sides, by a long and short report of proceedings, we conclude by respectfully asking to be relieved from all participation in these reports in the future.

PENNSYLVANIA—Seventeenth annual conclave at Williamsport, June 14, 1870; Sir James H. Hopkins, R. E. Grand Commander; thirty-four Commanderies represented, and a large number of distinguished visitors present. The conclave was held "in camp," under military regime, and continued four days. A year ago, commenting on field encampments, Sir Knight Hopkins suggested that each novitiate should be asked "Can you ride a horse with ease and safety?": but whether his suggestion was adopted, and on the present occasion Pennsylvania's chivalry assembled on horseback, we are not able to state.

The Grand Commander delivered a clear and business-like address, chiefly devoted to matters of local interest. He issued an order to the subordinates, requiring them to assemble in groups of two and three, at stated times and places, and was thus enabled to visit all with two exceptions. In a large jurisdiction, this is an excellent plan for facilitating official visits, exemplifying the work and imparting instruction. He states that nearly all the Commanderies are in a prosperous condition, and reports a number of decisions, most of which

are governed by local regulations or well established principles of Masonic law; but we object to the following:

An Eminent Commander may order a re-ballot as often as he pleases. It is in his discretion, to be exercised under his sense of duty and right.

We hold that the ballot ought never to be cast the second time, unless for the sole purpose of correcting mistakes. Any other practice would destroy the purity of the ballot, by wearying out the objecting member or members, or taking advantage of their absence at a subsequent meeting. But Sir James says that the Grand Encampment has decided "that an E. C. may order a re-ballot as often as he thinks proper." We think he is in error: among the decisions of Grand Master Hubbard, ordered to be printed in 1853, but published separately from the proceedings, is the following:

The Grand Commander may of right, and for good reasons, order a second ballot, under any circumstances. Even if a minute has been made of the first ballot, the ballot, for good cause shown to him, may be repealed, and a subsequent entry made. The converse of this is also true—that is, the Grand Commander may *refuse* to order a repetition of the ballot, in his discretion.

This is the only decision we have been able to find on the subject, and it has never received the official sanction of the Grand Body. But even admitting it to be in full force and vigor, it does not sustain the ruling of Sir Knight Hopkins.

In the conclusion of the address, we find the following suggestions, which merit a careful consideration:

1. It is quite evident that the honors of this rank are too easily attainable. Our personal friendships, or a desire to swell the muster roll, often cause the most careful to relax in favor of good men. These very men who are hurried through would have a higher appreciation of the favor shown them if it could not be procured so readily. There is also danger that the doors untimely opened for the worthy man may let in others unfit for this fellowship. Hence I recommend that no petition be received from any one who has not been at least six months a Royal Arch Mason, and that a full month intervene between the reception of the petition and the ballot, and between the conferring of the several orders.

2. That the Order of Malta be conferred in full in all cases.

3. That petitioners for a dispensation to form a new Commandery be required to withdraw from membership in other Commanderies before the dispensation be granted.

4. That the Knights recommended as officers of new Commanderies be examined by the Grand Commander, or under his authority, in one of the nearest Commanderies, before such Commandery shall consent to the formation of a new one.

5. That there be prepared a careful Digest of Templar Law as settled by the action of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and of this Grand Body, and by the decisions of the Chief Officer of each. This is the more necessary because there is a conflict of authority in several cases.

He also suggested the erection of a Home for destitute brothers, their widows and orphans, and a committee was appointed to confer with the other Masonic organizations on the subject.

R. E. Sir James H. Hopkins presented his commission as representative of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, and was received and accredited as such.

The reports of the associate Grand Officers, in addition to the recital of their official acts, show that the subordinates are enjoying prosperity and harmony.

A resolution to increase the minimum fee for the orders was introduced, and during the debate it was elicited that some of the subordinates were conferring the orders at a less sum than the constitution required; the resolution being laid on the table, the Grand Commander decided, "that no subordinate has a right to confer the Orders of Knighthood for a less sum than twenty dollars; which amount cannot, by vote of the Commandery, be remitted in whole or in part."

The Committee on Statutes, etc., presented a report, in which they say:

The installation ceremonies have been materially changed, as you will find from its preparation, the committee combining the United States and the English ritual, which will have a direct tendency to restore the original ceremonies of installation in the Orders of Christian Knighthood.

Yet there is one subject of vital importance connected therewith, which is of the utmost importance, and which your committee at this time does not feel fully justifiable in reporting upon. It is the introduction of the *Past Eminent Commander's Degree*, a degree which has been used in Europe for three quarters of a century; and we have in our archives the written evidence of its being conferred in Pennsylvania, in 1814, by authority of the Grand Commandery of this State. The official ritual is in possession of the committee, and we believe it would add materially to elucidate an historical fact to the Templar.

The report was laid over until next year, when we hope both subjects will receive a *quietus*. The Grand Encampment has prescribed an installation ceremony, and Pennsylvania, being one of its subordinates, has no right to make patch-work of it: and we have quite enough of degrees already, without cobbling and tinkering at one for Past Eminent Commanders.

The installation ceremonies were performed in public, Rev. Sir J. I. Mcllyer delivering an eloquent oration on the occasion.

A vote of thanks was rendered the retiring Grand Commander for the faithful and efficient manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office, and a committee appointed to present him with an appropriate testimonial. Having performed his full term of penance as a G. C., Sir James was appointed chief of the correspondence department, and we congratulate him on his re-admission into the guild of reviewers.

A special conclave was held in Philadelphia, October 18, 1869, for the purpose of granting charters to two Commanderies under dispensation.

Sir Charles E. Meyer presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Commanderies, our own included, are noticed in a courteous and knightly manner.

Seventeen memorial tablets record the names of the knightly dead.

TENNESSEE—Eighth annual conclave at Nashville, May 11, 1870; Sir Joseph M. Towler, R. E. Grand Commander; nine Commanderies represented.

In a brief, business-like address the Grand Commander reports our Order in a flourishing condition; regrets the death of Sir Williamson H. Horn, who had been Grand Treasurer since the organization of the Grand Commandery, in 1859; and favors a revision of the ritual so as to make it conform to the English and Scotch—he will find few, however, to concur with him in this opinion.

One charter was granted: a new set of jewels, made of solid gold and costing three hundred dollars, had been procured for the Grand Commandery: a resolution was adopted providing for the presentation, at the next annual conclave, of an elegant Templar banner to the subordinate Commandery showing the greatest

proficiency in tactics and drill: and Sir Henry Sheffield, in presenting his credentials as representative of Connecticut, also presented a "cross" and "nutmeg" carved from the wood of the famous Charter Oak, as a memorial of the occasion and a pledge of the esteem of the Sir Knights of Connecticut.

On the second day of the session, the Grand Commander delivered a public address on the supremacy of truth over ignorance and infidelity: it is printed in the appendix and contains some good ideas, but its excellence is marred by the sophomorical and "hifalutin" style in which it is written. There was also a public parade and procession, during which the young ladies of a Female Seminary showered flowers upon the Sir Knights, and decked one of them "with a costly wreath of rare beauty." After the close of the conclave, the Sir Knights, their wives and daughters partook of a splendid banquet, provided by Nashville Commandery No. 1. The festivities of the evening were prolonged until a late hour, and it is said to have been one of the pleasantest reunions that Nashville ever witnessed.

Sir George S. Blackie presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. The proceedings of twenty-two Grand Commanderies, Louisiana included, are reviewed in an able and courteous manner; and brief notices of the Templar Grand Bodies in England, Scotland and Ireland are also given. He signs his report as "Knight Commander"—a grade not known in the American system, and therefore out of place in a paper submitted to a Grand Commandery subordinate to the Grand Encampment of the United States.

TEXAS—Annual conclave at Houston, June 13, 1870; Sir W. B. Botts, R. E. Grand Commander; five Commanderies represented.

The annual address is brief, and chiefly confined to matters of local interest. The Grand Commander says:

In April last, I received a communication from the Recorder of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, New Orleans, Louisiana, asking permission, in the name of his Commandery, to confer the Orders of Knighthood upon two Companions, members of a Chapter of this State, and living within the limits of this State, giving as a reason that the applicants were living at a long distance from any Commandery in Texas, and find it easier and more convenient to receive the orders in New Orleans. I replied that, in my opinion, the Grand Commander did not possess the power to grant the dispensations asked for. The proper course to pursue would be for the applicants to petition the nearest Commandery to their residence, and if duly elected, that Commandery should make the request, if they saw proper.

We fully concur with him in opinion. Prosperity continues to mark the progress of our Order throughout the jurisdiction: one charter was granted, and the usual routine of business transacted.

Sir Robert M. Elgin presented an interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies are reviewed in a knightly and courteous manner—Louisiana receiving favorable mention. In his review of Maine, after noticing their field encampment, he says:

The time was no doubt passed pleasantly and we hope profitably. Some of the other States north have had similar meetings. They may do very well there, but would not suit this latitude. Were we to attempt it here, it is more than likely it would be construed into a "plot and conspiracy," in which event a genuine "officer of the day," with "sword and pistols by his side," and straps on his shoulders, might "close the encampment" without ceremony. But

even if that were not the case, eight years of genuine military regime has over-gorged us. We would hardly enjoy the imitation. While we are not disposed to strip Templar Masonry of any of its present military features, we will take as little *fuss and feathers* "in ours" as possible.

Noticing the appointment of a committee by Virginia to report on territorial jurisdiction, he remarks:

We have not full data before us, but understand that the Grand Encampment claims exclusive jurisdiction in Western Virginia—territory over which Virginia had jurisdiction at the time of the formation of the Grand Encampment, and has exercised the same ever since. By the constitution of the Grand Encampment it is granted "exclusive power to constitute new Commanderies within any State, District, or Territory wherein there is no State Commandery regularly formed under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of the United States;" and the Grand Master is authorized to grant dispensations for Commanderies within "said *unappropriated* State, District, or Territory." The latter clause shows that their authority was intended to apply to territory that was unappropriated. For it to claim jurisdiction on the ground that a portion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Virginia has become a separate State is, it seems to us, conceding to the political authorities the right to determine our Masonic boundaries, and transferring jurisdiction from one Grand Body to another at will. If making a new State out of territory over which the Grand Commandery of Virginia exercised jurisdiction, transfers that jurisdiction to the Grand Encampment, would not the change of the boundaries of a State, so that a portion previously within the jurisdiction of one Grand Commandery was transferred to a State in which there was another, change the Masonic jurisdiction of the subordinate Commanderies therein from one Grand Commandery to the other? And if this change of State boundaries changes Masonic jurisdiction, what would have been the condition of the Grand Commandery if all her subordinates but one or two had been in that portion of her jurisdiction? Suppose New York and Brooklyn, as has been suggested, were made into a new State, what would become of the Grand Commandery, and what portion of that immense jurisdiction would fall to the Grand Encampment? And suppose Texas should be cut up into four or five new States, as has been proposed; her half dozen Commanderies would probably be so scattered that not more than two would remain in either State. In that event we suppose the Grand Encampment would swallow up Grand Commandery and all. The case in issue would have been different had there been no actual exercise of jurisdiction. But in this case three or more (and we believe the oldest in the jurisdiction) are in West Virginia. Her's then was a vested right at the time, and it could not be divested by any act of the political powers, nor by the Grand Encampment, except by the formation of a Grand Commandery in the manner pointed out by the constitution.

Situated as Texas is, at any time liable to be dissevered by political force, we think it our duty to utter in advance what we deem to be the correct legal position. It is this; that when positive jurisdiction is exercised, it is not changed, and cannot be divested by any act of the political authorities. The formation of a new State may make it *expedient* to form a new Grand Body, but that is a matter solely within the discretion of the subordinates located therein.

By turning to our review of Virginia, it will be seen that the question referred to the committee was not the claim of the Grand Encampment to exercise jurisdiction over West Virginia, but the right of the Grand Commandery of Virginia to establish Commanderies in North Carolina and Florida. The language of the resolution under which the committee was appointed, led us, in our last report, to place the same construction upon it as that adopted by Sir Knight Elgin, and we have given his argument in full because, so far as Texas is concerned, the question may arise at any moment. But we dissent from his opin-

lon, and as Sir John W. Simons has replied to it, we quote his remarks as conclusive on the subject:

The earliest inculcations of Masonry are that the fraternity is always to respect the civil authorities, and recognize their acts as of binding force. Now, it must be admitted that those authorities alone have the power to fix and alter the boundaries of States, and that Masonic boundaries must conform to the lines thus marked out. From this it would follow that if by any act of the proper authorities New York and Brooklyn should be erected into—say the State of Manhattan—they would no longer be a part of the State of New York, and that State would have no further jurisdiction, civil or Masonic, over them. Until the subordinate Commanderies therein located should take the recognized and lawful steps to form a Grand Commandery of their own they would owe allegiance to the Grand Encampment, which, by the very terms of its formation, has jurisdiction over all *unappropriated* territory, “unappropriated” referring to the jurisdiction of Grand Commanderies, and not at all to that of subordinates. Perhaps this will be better understood if we should suggest that instead of being set off by concurrence of the Legislature of New York, and the Congress of the United States, the two cities mentioned, should, by a convulsion of nature, be engulfed in the sea. In this supposed case there would be no territory to govern, yet it is certain that the sinking of the two cities in the sea would not more certainly take them out of the State of New York than would an act of the civil authorities. The Grand Commandery of New York can only exercise jurisdiction within the limits of the State as laid down on the map by the civil, not Masonic authorities, and hence it could not follow its former subordinates when they had been lawfully transplanted into another State. The Grand Lodge of Virginia has recognized this doctrine by recognizing and entering into correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Western Virginia, and it would be well for the Grand Commandery to adopt the precedent thus placed before it and to remember as well that, even though it should become an independent body it would not thereby acquire or hold any jurisdiction beyond the lines of Virginia. So of the State of Texas. If in accordance with law any part thereof should be set off into a separate State, or States, so much of it would be removed from the jurisdiction of the Masonic Grand Bodies of Texas as fully and completely as if it had never existed; the subordinates in the part set off would at once, as occupying unappropriated territory, fall under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment and so remain until in due course and under proper sanction they should set up Masonic governments for themselves. Florida is an unappropriated Templar territory, because there is no Grand Commandery there, but that does not give the Grand Commanderies of the different States any right to establish subordinates within its limits, because the very fact of there being no local governing authority places it under the government and supervision of the Grand Encampment to the exclusion of all others. West Virginia is as much an unappropriated or vacant territory as Florida, and is, of course, subject to the same rules.

At the close of his report, Sir Knight Elgin hopes the cloud that hangs over Virginia may soon be dispelled, and that the very general adoption of the representative system, in addition to the labors of the Correspondence Committees, will not only promote good feeling, but be the means of reconciling whatever differences may arise between the several jurisdictions.

VERMONT—Annual conclave at Burlington, June 14, 1870; Russell S. Taft, R. E. Grand Commander; six chartered Commanderies and one U. D. represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is able and interesting. There appears to have been considerable difference of opinion in regard to the ritual, and, for prudential reasons, a resolution on the subject adopted at the last annual conclave was omitted in the published proceedings. During the recess, the

Grand Commander gave the subject a careful examination, and says he is satisfied that the work of the subordinates is correct, and that no material variance exists: at the same time, he thinks it would be advisable to hold a special conclave for the purpose of exemplifying the work, and the recommendation was concurred in.

He granted a dispensation for a new Commandery, and was asked if any departure from the uniform prescribed by the Grand Encampment could be allowed. He answered in the negative: he also says:

I have occasionally been requested to advise an encampment of the Commanderies in our jurisdiction, and have as often refused. While an occasion of that kind can be made exceedingly pleasant and agreeable, if well carried out, did it ever occur to you that our Commanderies, with costumes varying in number from three to twenty, would make rather a sorry spectacle in a military point of view. Our valiant Sir Knights without costumes or swords, would, as a matter of course, desire to take part in the good things of such an entertainment, and with all my prejudices in favor of the regulation uniform, I could hardly refuse them a place in the ranks. Consider, then, what a gay appearance we should make with our regular costumes, our old fashioned ones, black coats and linen coats, straw hats and fatigue caps, Damascus blades and wooden swords; well might the witches of Shakspeare's time exclaim:

"Black spirits and white,
Red spirits and gray,
Mingle, mingle, mingle,
You that mingle may."

Should one ever be held, I advise the selection of a camping ground as far as possible from the Canadian borders, for I feel assured that with the green insignia of the Red Cross we should be taken for a straggling company of Fenian cavalry, and I have no desire, while I am at your head, to cultivate the acquaintance of United States Marshal Foster. Then, again, we have no banners; just think of an army with no flag. Uniform yourselves, then, Sir Knights, and as soon as we can make a creditable appearance we will take the field.

Last year several Correspondence Committees, our own included, commented upon the Grand Commander granting a dispensation to ballot upon a candidate at a special conclave. Alluding to this, he claims that it is the inherent prerogative of the Grand Commander to grant dispensations for conferring the orders in less than the constitutional time, and asserts that Grand Commanders possess all the powers of Grand Masters. The objection, however, was not in regard to dispensing with time, but in authorizing a ballot at a special conclave in contravention of one of the established principles of Masonry. Grand Masters ruled and governed the craft before Grand Lodges were formed, and when the present system came into existence the prerogatives previously exercised by the Grand Master were conceded to him, and hence they are said to be inherent. But the case is different with Grand Commanders: these officers were called into being by Grand Commanderies, and possess only such powers as are granted them by the constitution.

The address closes with a feeling tribute to the memory of the knightly dead.

One charter was granted; an amendment to the statutes, making the R. and S. M. degrees a prerequisite for the orders, lies over to next year: and an invitation was extended by the Masons of Burlington to the Grand Commandery to join the Grand Lodge in a steamboat excursion on Lake Champlain, which was accepted and the courtesy duly acknowledged.

Sir T. F. Stuart presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he

gives a brief but fraternal notice of the doings of twenty Grand Commanderies.—Louisiana for 1864, 1869 and 1870 included.

We have also received a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Encampment of Vermont from its organization in 1824 to its reorganization in 1862—a valuable addition to the history of Templar Masonry.

VIRGINIA—Annual conclave at Richmond, December 15, 1870; Sir John Robin McDaniel, R. E. Grand Commander; eleven Commanderies represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is an excellent paper. He reports that peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction, and, although there had been no additions to the number of subordinates, those in existence are working with increased and increasing good results. The importance of obtaining a full representation of all the subordinates at the annual conclave, leads him to suggest the propriety of paying the expenses of the representatives, and to hold it at some other time than when the associate Masonic Grand Bodies are in session, as under the present arrangement so much is crowded into one week that the business of the Grand Commandery particularly, receives only a secondary consideration. Financial reasons, however, rendered it inexpedient to adopt either suggestion. He reported the following decisions, which were concurred in:

There is no authority for conferring the Orders of Knighthood as an Honorarium, free of charge.

All members are chargeable with dues, and to be equally assessed, none can be exempted; but arrearages may be remitted for inability to pay.

Petitions for the orders or for affiliation can only be presented to, or be acted on, by a regular conclave.

No subordinate can decide cases of emergency.

The address concludes with a beautiful eulogy to the memory of Past Grand Commander Sir Charles A. Grice.

At the last annual conclave a committee was appointed on territorial jurisdiction, and we supposed it referred to West Virginia. It appears, however, that during the war the Grand Commandery of Virginia chartered a Commandery in North Carolina and another in Florida. In his address, the Grand Commander states that his attention was called to the illegality of the establishment of these bodies by the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, who, in a courteous but urgent manner, requested that the charters thus issued should be recalled. After investigating the subject he promptly complied with the request: the charter of the Commandery in North Carolina was returned; but no answer had been received from the one in Florida, and as nothing had been heard from it since 1864, it was supposed to be extinct. The report of the committee states substantially the same facts, and disclaims the right to exercise "any constitutional authority over any Commanderies beyond the State of Virginia as it was." The report and resolutions were adopted.

The committee appointed to suggest the most efficient means of effecting a permanent separation from the Grand Encampment presented a lengthy report, which, with the resolutions annexed, was after amendment adopted. The report is ably written, but displays much feeling against the Central Grand Body, and matters, that years ago were supposed to have been amicably adjusted, are dragged up from the dead past to form a basis for the grievances complained of. The committee give a synopsis of the history of Templar Masonry in Virginia

as viewed from their stand-point: its length prevents us from quoting it entire, but for a better understanding of the subject we give the following outline:}

They state that about 1812 there was a Commandery at Winchester, which is presumed to have worked under authority of the Lodge in that place: that a convention was held in Richmond, March 24, 1816, and organized "St. John's Rising Star, which was intended to be a Grand Commandery," and they understand that its authority "was a commission from a Lodge in Scotland." The General Grand Encampment of the United States was formed June 20, 1816, and, the Virginia bodies being considered irregular, the Richmond Commandery applied for and received "a charter of constitution," dated April 10, 1823, for which the regular fees were paid. This produced dissatisfaction, as Richmond Commandery considered itself entitled to "a charter of recognition." The Commandery at Winchester about this time chartered two other bodies and formed a Grand Commandery, which afterward acknowledged the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment: one of the Commanderies dissented from this action, withdrew and soon became extinct: to preserve the organization the Richmond Commandery accepted an invitation to join the Grand Commandery, but its delegates were instructed "to move a declaration of independence from the Grand Encampment as soon as the organization was completed." The other Commanderies declining to accede to this proposition, Richmond Commandery withdrew from the Grand Commandery and soon became dormant. The Grand Commandery of Virginia was represented at the triennial conclave of 1826; but, presuming it to have ceased to exist soon afterward, the Grand Encampment, in 1838, issued a dispensation to form a Commandery at Wheeling, and granted it a charter in 1839. This produced much feeling, as, according to the committee, the Grand Commandery was not dead, having met in January, 1839, and although it closed to meet in January, 1840, the members "quietly determined to meet no more under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment." Hence, on December 11, 1845, an independent Grand Commandery was formed in Richmond, and the Grand Encampment declared non-intercourse between those acknowledging allegiance to it and the Virginia Commanderies. In December, 1850, the Grand Commandery receded from its position of independence, and recognized the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment; the edict of non-intercourse was rescinded and harmony apparently restored. But it was only apparently: in 1852, agitation for a separation was renewed and kept up until the breaking out of the war, when Virginia renounced her allegiance to the Grand Encampment. In November, 1865, the Grand Commandery of Virginia renewed its allegiance to the Central Grand Body, and in 1867 the agitation for separation and an independent existence was revived.

Having concluded their historical sketch, the committee sum up a long list of grievances, prominent among which are the fees paid for the charter in 1823, and the establishment of Wheeling Commandery in 1839. According to their own showing, every thing complained of occurred before 1850 when all differences were amicably adjusted; yet repeating their "oft-expressed desire" for separation, and charging that the Grand Encampment "is not only useless, but may be an oppressive and dangerous body," they submit the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The Grand Commandery of Virginia has, from the very beginning

of her existence to the present time, been, in principle, strongly opposed to the Grand Encampment of the United States, and to every and any other supreme Masonic or Knightly Body having superior power to State organizations; and for a great portion of the time has been and now is unwillingly a member of said Grand Encampment, and has often expressed her desire, by act and resolution, for a permanent, peaceful separation therefrom; and whereas, such separation can be had only in one of three ways: 1st. By the dissolution of that Grand Body. 2d. By violent separation or rebellion against constituted authority; and 3d. By her allowing us to withdraw in peace, honor and recognition; and whereas, the first of these means is in the distant future, and, perhaps, improbable at any time; and the second is fraught with immense inconvenience and great sacrifice in isolation, non-intercourse, malice, and ill-will, and would not be advisable for us to use, unless her assumptions of power and acts of aggression should be too oppressive for peaceful endurance; and the third is the only proper and legal means of gaining our desire, and the only feasible plan to be tried or recommended; and which, notwithstanding the repeated orders and requests of this Grand Commandery to her delegates to the Grand Encampment, has not been fully and fairly tried, as her records clearly show; and whereas, it is important to our peace at home and usefulness abroad, that the oft-expressed desire of permanent separation be gratified, or subjected, and at rest, until some cause should arise, of sufficient oppression or injustice, to warrant open rebellion; therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed by this Grand Commandery to memorialize the Grand Encampment at its next assembly, in Baltimore, in 1871, most respectfully asking that Body to allow this Grand Commandery, in peace, in honor, and in recognition, to withdraw therefrom, and become a free, sovereign and independent Grand Encampment. And said committee shall be hereby instructed to attend that assembly and, if allowed, to urge our petition; and, if said petition be granted, to aid in drawing up the plan of mutual relation, power and extent.

2. That it is the duty of the members of this Grand Commandery, who are, *ex officio*, members of the Grand Encampment, to attend its stated assemblies, and to take such part in the work of that Body as, in their judgment, the interests of Templarism in general, or those of this Grand Commandery in particular, may require, and which they may be able to render.

3. That should the Grand Encampment refuse or decline to accede to our request, we shall, nevertheless, ever feel free to hold and declare that Ancient Craft Masonry is, according to the old constitutions, the real source of all authority for conferring the Orders of Knighthood, and of allowing the formation of Commanderies to regulate its ritual and control its members in reference to its own laws and principles; and that no department of Knighthood has the right to pass any law, or establish any custom, or exercise any authority, or establish any jurisdictional claims, inconsistent or in conflict with those of common Masonic law and usage. And while we will be true to the vows of our position, however assigned, yet we shall ever maintain that the origin of the Grand Encampment, her claims to control the organization of State Grand Commanderies, and some portions of her so-called constitution, are unmasonic, and that the existence of such a body is fraught with danger to the true aim and principles of Masonic Knighthood.

4. That we will keep our desire for independence, if not granted, in due bounds; we will ever stand ready and willing to unite with sister State Commanderies, when they shall be in sufficient number to command a hearing, in forcing, so far as we can in a courteous and knightly manner, the Grand Encampment to allow a peaceful and honorable withdrawal to such Grand Commanderies as desire to maintain a separate existence.

A fifth resolution instructs the delegates, if they deem it advisable, to invite the Grand Encampment to meet in Richmond, in 1874; and a sixth recommends the appointment of a Historiographer.

The historical portion of the report is liberally interspersed with remarks.

The committee charge the Grand Encampment with usurpation, etc., and, commenting upon the recognition of its jurisdiction by the Grand Commandery of Virginia in 1850, they say harmony was apparently restored and make the following avowal, which we cannot reconcile with the principles of Christian Knighthood:

Policy, not principle, had caused the Grand Commandery to recede from her position of independence; for the desire of freedom from her jurisdiction was deeply seated in the heart of every Templar with us. But although the heart was not in the act of re-union, yet, as far as the *eye* could see, or the *ear* hear, all things, so far as the Grand Encampment was concerned, were *rightly done*.

A committee was appointed to "memorialize the Grand Encampment" on the subject: but the questions settled in 1850 cannot be re-opened for discussion: the plea that Ancient Craft Masonry "is the real source of all authority for conferring the Orders of Knighthood" cannot be entertained, for, "according to the old constitutions," Ancient Craft Masonry only recognizes the symbolic degrees: hence, "the oft-expressed desire for a permanent separation" is the only ground on which the question can be considered. That the memorial will receive courteous attention from the Grand Encampment does not admit of a doubt, but for that Grand Body to grant the request would be to sign its own death-warrant, and, in our opinion, jeopardize the interests of Templar Masonry throughout the land.

A resolution declaring the Grand Commander ineligible to election for more than three consecutive years, was adopted.

Sir James A. Scott presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, a brief but able review of the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Commanderies. Louisiana receives a fraternal notice, and in reference to our comments on his remarks anent Reports on Correspondence, he says we fail to see the force of his objections "to these annual explosions of mutual admiration on the one hand, and of crimination and recrimination on the other." But he seems to have become convinced that neither are inherent in the system, for in his conclusion he says:

And now, finally, we have a confession to make: we have "erred and sinned" against one of the most enlightened and self-sacrificing associations of which we have any knowledge, and we desire thus frankly to confess our fault, and to seek a closer communion with our colleagues of the "Mutual;" to implore their pardon for the past, and promise amendment for the future. It is no slight privilege to be brought in contact with the immediate representatives of thirty thousand men—brothers engaged in the holy cause of propagating the sublime truths of our Order, and aiding in relieving the sufferings of the unfortunate. To read the thoughts, and have impressed upon our minds the utterances of hundreds of the good men and true, scattered all over this broad land, from Maine to Texas, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, in their efforts to do good, is a privilege which, to be realized, must be enjoyed; and we assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that the Templar who carefully peruses the pages of the proceedings now before us, will feel a thrill of unalloyed delight if he can claim to be an active member of this honored and honorable institution.

WISCONSIN—Eleventh annual conclave at Milwaukee, January 19, 1870; Sir William E. Hiner, R. E. Grand Commander; seven Commanderies represented.

The annual address is a clear, business-like paper. The Grand Commander says his duties have been neither onerous nor unpleasant: no application for new Commanderies had been made, and, the increase in membership being less

than in former years, he concludes that there is a closer scrutiny of the qualifications of candidates and a stricter enforcement of discipline. He had visited all the subordinates, and found them in a satisfactory condition, with one exception. This difficulty was occasioned by the edict against the Rite of Memphis, and he correctly remarks:

Whether this Grand Body should have trusted to the equivocal circumstances under which, and by which this Rite was introduced into this jurisdiction for its final condemnation; or interposed the interdict it did; was not, and is not, a matter for individual judgment to decide.

The foundation on which our Order rests, is that of implicit obedience to the mandates of superior authority.

On his recommendation the representative system was adopted; the subordinates required to fix the fees for the Orders at a sum sufficient to cover the expense of a full regulation uniform; and statutes enacted making it obligatory upon every Templar to be in affiliation with Lodge and Chapter, and prohibiting action on the petition of any candidate who has not been, at least one year, a Royal Arch Mason.

A resolution was adopted providing for the collection of dues from members in arrears by notice and trial, similar to the regulations of our Grand Lodge on the subject.

In 1868 the Grand Commandery adopted resolutions requiring all Templars connected with the Rite of Memphis to renounce that connection. Charges were preferred against a Sir Knight for refusing to comply with the edict; on the trial the charges were proved, but his Commandery refused to discipline him. Past Grand Master Sir H. L. Palmer, from the Committee on Knightly Courtesy and Jurisprudence, presented the following report on the subject; and whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the policy of issuing the original edict, there can be no question as to the correctness of the principles enunciated in the report:

The committee regret the necessity of considering or acting upon this subject at all. They have heretofore entertained the opinion that it was only necessary for the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin to adopt a reasonable and proper regulation to secure the cordial compliance of every Templar in the State; but experience has forced us to a different conclusion. The committee will not discuss the powers of the Grand Commandery with its subordinates or members thereof. Every Templar in Wisconsin is bound by such obligations as men and Masons regard as binding to yield obedience to the statutes and edicts of the Grand Commandery. This obligation is voluntarily assumed; subordinate Commanderies and their members have a voice in the making of such statutes and regulations through their representatives. There is no warrant for their causing a minority large or small, to absolve themselves from their obligations to yield obedience to such statutes and regulations as shall be lawfully enacted by the Grand Commandery. Should a Grand Commandery adopt a regulation exceeding its powers, an appeal to the Grand Encampment of the United States, and not disloyal defiance of the authority of the Grand Commandery, is the rightful remedy. Without re-opening the original question involved in this case, and, for the present, passing over the fact that a subordinate Commandery has failed on trial to award any punishment for grave offences, admitted and proved, the committee recommend the adoption of resolutions No. 1, 2 and 3, hereto annexed, believing that under their operation Robert Macoy Commandery No. 3 will be able to preserve the high position which she has hitherto held among the Commanderies of the State.

The resolutions referred to provide 1. That it is the duty of the subordinate

Commanderies to institute proceedings against any member who shall connect himself, or retain his connection, with the Rite of Memphis: 2. That the penalty for this violation of Templar obligation shall be suspension until such connection is severed by written declaration to that effect and read in open Commandery: and 3. Declaring it to be the duty of the Grand Commander to arrest the charter of any Commandery which knowingly retains in its membership or admits as visitors Knights guilty of thus living in violation of their obligation.

The Iowa Committee having severely criticised the action of Wisconsin in this matter, the following reply appears in the Report on Correspondence:

No one will deny that a Grand Commandery has the undoubted authority to decide, for its subjects, what is and what is not legitimate Templar Masonry. Now the propagandists of the "Memphis Rite" came into our jurisdiction and peddled out their degrees to unsuspecting brethren and companions, upon the representation that they were a valid substitute for Royal Arch and Templar Masonry, and that the knowledge of their ritual put candidates in possession of all that could be obtained in regular Chapters and Commanderies. Moreover, they conferred their degrees under all conceivable circumstances, and for all prices. One reliable brother told the writer of this, that one of the propagandists spoken of offered to give him the degrees in the baggage-car, going from Madison to Milwaukee, and all for \$5. Scores of brethren were imposed upon—relieved of their loose change, and left no nearer the inside of a Chapter or Commandery than they were before. If members of our subordinate Commanderies become identified with such irregular and disloyal proceedings, will our Fraters of Iowa and Indiana pretend to say that it is not competent for this Grand Body to correct the evil by proper legislation? We do not believe that even Bro. Guilbert or Bro. Langridge would have the hardihood to assert such a proposition.

Under similar circumstances we would favor the Wisconsin plan for abating the evil.

Sir Harlow Pease presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which the proceedings of seventeen Grand Commanderies are reviewed in an able and courteous manner—Louisiana for 1869 receiving knightly attention.

CONCLUSION.—Throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment our Order enjoys an abundant prosperity. The number of admissions has not been as great during the past as in preceding years, but it is still large; and it is claimed that a stricter discipline is enforced, and there is a more careful scrutiny into the character of applicants. Peace and harmony everywhere prevail. The position assumed by Virginia calls for regret, but we still hope that her chivalric sons will yield their cherished predilections to secure the unity and harmony of our beloved Order. If we are only true to ourselves, a glorious future lies before us; but to merit it we must keep the Banner of the Cross "full high advanced," and in our daily walk and conversation imitate the example set us by the Author and Finisher of our Faith.

Here we close our fifth and last report. We have not the time at our command necessary for the preparation of two reports, and holding that the Grand Lodge has a prior claim upon our services, we resign, but not without reluctance, the post so long held in this Grand Commandery. In bidding adieu to our Brethren of the Correspondence Committees, we thank them for the many kind notices bestowed upon our labors, and crave pardon if, in expressing our own opinions, we have ever wounded the feelings of the most sensitive. We

have never done so intentionally, but to err is human; and in the hope that when the pilgrimage of life is finished, we may all meet in the Grand Asylum on high, this report is

Courteously submitted by

JAMES B. SCOT,

For the Committee.

The following memorial was read, and on motion received, and ordered to be printed with the proceedings:

NEW ORLEANS, LA., February 14, 1871.

To the R. E. Grand Commander, Officers, and Sir Knights

of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana:

EM. SIRS: The undersigned, not having the privilege of seats and votes in your Grand Body, respectfully and courteously present this, our remonstrance, against Article 10 of By-Laws adopted by you on the — day of February, A. D. 1867, which reads as follows:

"Petitions for the Orders of Knighthood shall be received from no Companion who does not produce evidence of having been for six months a Royal Arch Mason."

And which we believe is to the detriment of Templar Masonry in Louisiana.

For reasons, we beg to state, that in our opinion it takes from each Commandery under your jurisdiction certain inalienable rights; the first and most prominent of which is the right guaranteed to all Masonic bodies of which the undersigned are members, to be the sole judge of the qualifications of all applicants for initiation into its mysteries.

Second. It works to the disadvantage of Templar Masonry, because Royal Arch Masons look upon it as a slur on their character; that they must be watched; that a (so to speak) six months *probation* is required of them before entering the sacred precincts of our Asylums.

This, to a sensitive nature, (and we have many of that class among us), deters a large number from embracing, and joining us in the great work of Christian Knighthood.

We believe that if a term of probation is found to be necessary, between the different bodies or degrees, it should be established lower in the Masonic scale.

We trust, Em. Sir Knights, that you will give *this* question careful and deliberate consideration, and we have no doubt your legislation on *that* subject as on all others, will be to the interests of Templar Masonry in general, and to that of Louisiana in particular.

Yours in Knightly courtesy,

S. B. WRIGHT,
Recorder Orleans Commandery.

C. A. SCOTT,
Prelate Orleans No. 3, K. T.

WM. P. STEWART,
Orleans No. 3, K. T.

S. F. MONROE,
Orleans No. 3, K. T.

F. W. PERKINS,
Orleans No. 3, K. T.

JOHN W. MADDEN,
Orleans No. 3, K. T.

JOHN C. GORDY,
Jacques de Molay No. 2, K. T.

A. G. CARTER,
Jacques de Molay No. 2, K. T.

Sir J. Q. A. Fellows called up the resolution laid over from the last Annual Grand Conclave, to repeal Article 10 of the By-Laws.

Sir Samuel M. Todd moved, as a substitute, that the whole matter be laid over for another year, which, after considerable debate, was withdrawn, and the original question acted on.

A vote by Commanderies was called, and resulted in 19 nays and 8 yeas; whereupon the resolution was declared lost.

The Special Committee on R. E. Grand Commander's Address submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee on the Address of the R. E. Grand Commander respectfully report that, having duly considered the same, they recommend

1. That a Committee be appointed to draft appropriate resolutions on the death of the Illustrious Sir Knights, B. B. French, M. E. Past Grand Master of Templars; Fulgence Ricau, R. E. Past Grand Commander; and James E. McBeth, E. Grand Captain General; to be reported to the R. E. Grand Commander and printed with the proceedings.

2. That the appointments made by the R. E. Grand Commander to represent this Grand Commandery near those of New York and California be approved, and that the Sir Knights holding commissions from sister Grand Commanderies as representatives near our own, be received and welcomed as such.

3. That the action of the R. E. Grand Commander in depositing the proceedings of sister Grand Commanderies in the Grand Lodge Library be approved, and said proceedings donated to the Library.

Courteously submitted,

JAMES B. SCOT,
J. Q. A. FELLOWS,
SAMUEL M. TODD.

Sirs J. Q. A. Fellows, Wm. R. Whitaker and M. A. Calongne were appointed the Committee under the first recommendation.

The R. E. Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, Sirs John H. Clark and Wm. L. Stanford acting as tellers, with the following result:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sir JOHN A. STEVENSON..... | R. E. Grand Commander. |
| Sir RICHARD LAMBERT..... | V. E. Deputy Grand Commander. |
| Sir WM. R. WHITAKER..... | E. Grand Generalissimo. |
| Sir HUGH BREEN..... | E. Grand Captain General. |
| Sir H. C. DUNCAN..... | E. Grand Prelate. |
| Sir JOHN H. CLARK..... | E. Grand Senior Warden. |
| Sir WM. L. STANFORD..... | E. Grand Junior Warden. |
| Sir EMANUEL BLESSEY..... | E. Grand Treasurer. |
| Sir GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | E. Grand Recorder. |
| Sir DANIEL E. SCRUGGS..... | E. Grand Standard Bearer. |
| Sir JOHN A. PEEL..... | E. Grand Sword Bearer. |
| Sir CHARLES A. SCOTT..... | E. Grand Warder. |
| Sir RAYMOND S. BURK..... | E. Grand Captain of the Guards. |

Sir John Q. A. Fellows, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, with the assistance of Sir

Samuel M. Todd, acting as Deputy, then proceeded to and did install the above named officers for the ensuing Masonic year in DUE AND AMPLE FORM.

On motion of R. E. Sir Samuel M. Todd, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies; and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Grand Commander for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect, and that fifty copies of the proceedings be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Correspondence.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated to E. Sir Knight Grand Recorder, and five dollars to E. Sir Knight Grand Captain of the Guards, for services rendered.

The Grand Recorder declined receiving any compensation for his services.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed Sirs Joseph P. Hornor and Wm. R. Whitaker Committee on Correspondence.

Sir Samuel M. Todd presented his credentials as Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky; Sir James B. Scot those of Maine, and Sir Joseph P. Hornor those of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey, near this Grand Body.

These Sir Knights were then formally introduced to the Grand Commandery as the Grand Representatives of the Grand Commanderies of Kentucky, Maine, and New Jersey; welcomed as such by the R. E. Grand Commander, and received with knightly honors.

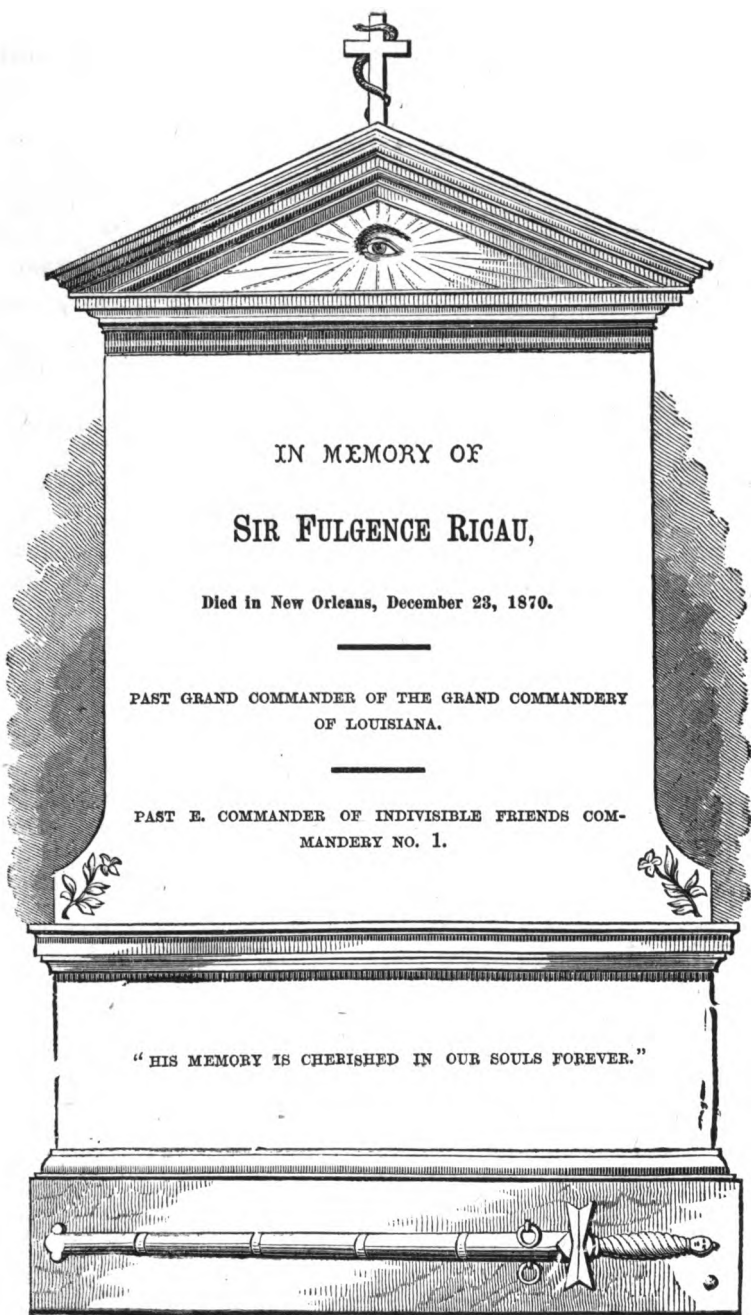
No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN AND KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next annual conclave on Friday, February 16th, A. D. 1872, A. O. 754.

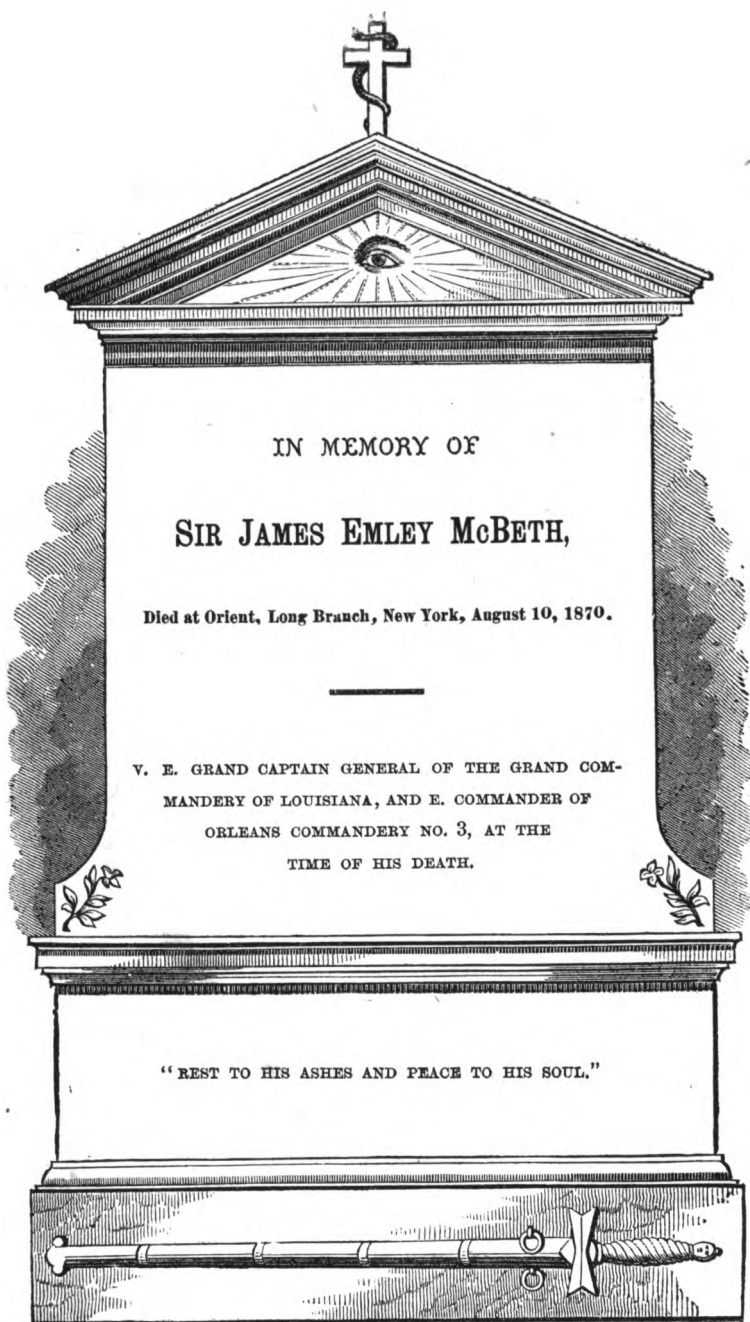


JOHN A. STEVENSON,
Grand Commander.

ATTEST:

G. SONTAG,
Grand Recorder.





ANNUAL RETURNS

OF

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

FOR THE YEAR 1870.

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Original charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York, May 4th, A. D. 1816,
A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th,
A. D. 1844.

OFFICERS FOR 1871.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Sir John G Fleming | E C. | Sir Hugh Breen..... | Treasurer. |
| " S Hopkins, jr..... | G. | " M A Calongne..... | Recorder. |
| " I W Homan..... | C G. | " O J Donella | Stan. Bearer. |
| " John Young, jr..... | Prelate. | " Henry Cassidy..... | Sword Bearer. |
| " J Kellett..... | Sen. Warden. | " B Russell | Warder. |
| " A W Benedict..... | Jun. Warden. | " R S Burk (not a member)... | Sent. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| T A Bartlette, | M A Calongne, | F W Delesdernier, |
| Hugh Breen, | James Stafford, | Richard Lambert, D & C. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Allabaugh, J R | Daussat, J L | Johnson, Geo | Rooney, John |
| Burden, Thomas | Ellsworth, O | Kells, Chas E | Rice, Felix |
| Baker, John | Ewell, Wm M | Knapp, F H | Richards, J D |
| Barksdale, E J | Furneaux, Jas | Keenan, Pat | Soulé, George |
| Beebe, O H | Ferranti, Theop | Lafon, René | Scott, John K |
| Brown, H O | Fisher, J A G | McCulloch, Wm | Starr, William |
| Buchanan, H | Garrett, A C | McDuff, Wm | Skardon, A W |
| Carter, J H | Harvey, J H | Melloch, E | Stewart, David |
| Cox, William | Heron, A O | Maguire, J W | Sheehan, Thos |
| Cage, D S | Hillman, A | Mullen, H J | Thomas, Charles |
| Constantini, Hon'y | Herwig, J L | Martin, Angel | Viosca, J, sr |
| Clark, John | Herwig, P F | Mayo, Claudius | Williams, Peter |
| Clarke, Geo H | Hart, L | Ochiglevich, J | Woolverton, N W |
| Cain, L P | Hinton, Isaac T | O'Dowd, J | White, Jona C |
| Carraher, Pat | Hall, S R | Olle, J | Wells, W H |
| Chandler, J Benj | Ivens, E M | Panzer, S H | Zeigler, Joseph |
| Czarnowski, Oscar | Isaacson, A H | Peel, John A | |
| Crawford, J D | Jones, F A | Riverra, P Nap | Total, 85. |

ORDERS CONFERRED—Claudius Mayo, J D Richards, A W Benedict, Benj Russell, S B Hall.

DIED—Fulgence Ricau, P G C, Smith Broas, Ph Bean, John Timbflake, J M Day, J M Nelson.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 25th, A. D. 1851. A. O. 735.

OFFICERS FOR 1871.

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Sir James B Scot.....E C. | Sir Emanuel Blessey.....Treasurer. |
| " Daniel E Scruggs.....G. | " Gustavus Sontag.....Recorder. |
| " Rufus L Bruce.....O G. | " George Selby.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " Jos H DeGrange.....Prelate. | " J W Pearce.....Sword Bearer. |
| " Z M Pike.....Sen. Warden. | " H P Buckley.....Warder. |
| " Robert Strong.....Jun. Warden. | " R S Burk (not a member)....Sent. |
| Sirs T F Patton, J. W. Wrede, H. Williams, Guards. | |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| W W Johnson, | John B Robertson, | Henry B Swasey, P G C, |
| Samuel M Todd, P G C, | James B Scot, P D G C. | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Addison, Ashford, | Douglass, James A | Monroe, John, T | Schilling, H T |
| Amesbury, J O | Fuller, Charles A | Mitchell, D F | Santini, Joseph, |
| Bockius, Jacob M | Foot, Alexis S | Murdock, L T | Stevenson, J A |
| Bell, Wm Robert | FitzGerald, W E | Manning, W H | Sheldon, A D |
| Batchelor, Jas C | Gale, James | McGuffy, H | Small, A B |
| Bothick, Thos W | Gordy, John C | Mason, William J | Thayer, F N |
| Barnett, Edward | Glennon, Robert | Maybin, William | Turck, J B |
| Betterton, W G | Garner, George G | Mandal, Peter C | Todd, James |
| Beattie, Wm | Hasam, Thomas | McWilliams, Jno G | VanHorn, T D |
| Bennett, Philip | Hawkins, John | Macon, Thos L | Whann, Wm, jr |
| Buckner, Simon B | Hamburger, H | Newton, C W | Weber, William |
| Boning, George | Hollyland, F | Pike, Wm S | Wang, Fred |
| Carter, Albert G | Jones, John W | Perkins, Wm M | Ward, John |
| Clarke, Joseph D | King, George H | Pierson, Hugh | Webster, L J |
| Craig, Emmet D | Kent, Amos | Rhinehart, B F | Wynne, C E |
| Chase, C H | Lane, Lafayette N | Ramelli, D S | Wilner, J C |
| Carroll, Timothy | Long, H W | Race, George W | Yorke, E A |
| Darden, B G | Lunn, Thomas | Robson, William | |
| Dunn, James B | McNeil, Alexander | Smith, John C | Total, 92. |

ORDERS CONFERRED—J W Wrede, Hugh Pierson, F N Thayer, J W Pearce.

DIED—John Bevan, S S Selleck, Thomas Murray.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, September 4th, A. D. 1862, A. O. 744

OFFICERS FOR 1871.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sir George Baldy.....E C. | Sir S F Munroe.....Treasurer. |
| " John H Clark.....G. | " S B Wright.....Recorder. |
| " W L Stanford.....C G. | " S A Stockdale.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " Charles A Scott.....Prelate. | " J W Madden.....Sword Bearer. |
| " N Burbank.....Sen. Warden. | " A E Billings.....Warder. |
| " W G James.....Jun. Warden. | " Raymond S Burk.....Sentinel. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| J Q A Fellows, P G C, | Joseph P Hornor, P G C, | Thomas Cripps, |
| W O Driver, | William R Whitaker, J | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Andrews, E B | Dickey, E S | Keyes, Nelson | Reid, Edw |
| Abbott, Geo H | Doane, Harmon | Leacock, W T | Rusha, E M, |
| At Lee, W N | Dunlap, J G | Lennon, Jas C | Remick, F C |
| Baldwin, Albert | Estlin, Charles T | Murphy, Wm E | Shaw, Alfred |
| Blake, George A | Fromeyer, W H | McGinnis, J J | Seymour, Sam'l J |
| Bullitt, Cuthbert | Friend, Thomas | Miller, Nick | Sizer, George W |
| Benedict, Wm S | Gardner, L H | Morrison, D C | Slaight, H L |
| Bovard, Rob't D | Gilman, S H | Nash, Charles T | Stewart, W P |
| Chamberlain, Geo | Girard, M E | Pilcher, Mason | Twitchell, H T |
| Crawford, Levi S | Hays, H T | Pierce, H D | Tomlin, W J |
| Campbell, Benj | Hall, G Alfred | Parle, A | Tisdale, Eugene |
| Carroll, B W W | Hughes, A de B | Perkins, F W | Watson, Robert |
| Collins, John F | Hildreth, D M | Potter, Jotham | Woods, Michael |
| Cosbey, John J | Hunt, C S | Robinson, N T N | Walsh, J P |
| Cooper, William | Johnson, W A | Rice, Chas S | Total, 76. |

ORDERS CONFERRED—John J Cosbey, James C Lennon, John W Madden, D C Morrison, Nelson Keyes, F C Remick, E S Talbott.

DEMITTED—E S Talbott.

DIED—James E McBeth, P C, Alanson B Long, E S Dickey, H F Morse.

RECAPITULATION.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Commanderies | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Membership | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 253 |
| Knighted | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 16 |
| Affiliated | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Demitted | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Died | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 13 |

**LIST OF PAST GRAND OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS,
OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.**

| YEAR. | E. E. GRAND COMMANDER. | V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER. | E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO. | E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. | E. GRAND PRELATE. | E. GRAND TREASURER. | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
|-------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1864. | Henry Rufus Swasey | J. Q. A. Fellows | Fulgence Rican* | Willis P. Coleman* | John H. Holland* | Hosea Edwards* | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1865. | J. Q. A. Fellows | S. M. Todd | Fulgence Rican* | Willis P. Coleman* | H. R. Swasey | Emanuel Blessey | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1866. | Sam'l M. Todd | Fulgence Rican* | Joseph P. Hornor | M. A. Calongue | H. R. Swasey | Emanuel Blessey | Jos. P. Hornor. |
| 1867. | Sam'l M. Todd | Fulgence Rican* | Joseph P. Hornor | Wm. R. Whitaker | H. R. Swasey | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1868. | Fulgence Rican* | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson | Wm. R. Whitaker | H. R. Swasey | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1869. | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson | Wm. R. Whitaker | M. A. Calongue | H. R. Swasey | Emanuel Blessey | Alfred E. Billings. |
| 1870. | Joseph P. Hornor | James B. Scott | T. A. Barlette | Jas. E. McBeth* | H. R. Swasey | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1871. | John A. Stevenson | Richard Lambert | Wm. R. Whitaker | Hugh Breen | H. C. Duncan | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |

* Dead.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

*Of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, near other Grand Com-
manderies.*

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, near the Grand Commandery of | Missouri. |
| Sir James H. Hopkins, | Pennsylvania. |
| Sir A. D. Sears, | Tennessee. |
| Sir A. E. Ames, | Minnesota. |
| Sir Robert L. Roddy, | Georgia. |
| Sir Edward A. Guilbert, | Iowa. |
| Sir Thomas J. Corson, | New Jersey. |
| Sir Josiah H. Drummond, | Maine. |
| Sir William C. Munger, | Kentucky. |
| Sir William W. Baker, | Massachusetts. |
| Sir Frank R. Jarvis, | Alabama. |
| Sir Ezra S. Barnum, | New York. |
| Sir Isaac S. Titus, | California. |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

*Of other Grand Commanderies, near the Grand Commandery of
Louisiana.*

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Sir Samuel M. Todd..... | { New York, Pennsylvania, Kentucky. |
| Sir Joseph P. Hornor..... | { Missouri, New Jersey. |
| Sir J. Q. A. Fellows..... | { Vermont, Minnesota, Wisconsin. |
| Sir James B. Scot..... | Maine. |
| Sir James C. Batchelor..... | Tennessee. |

REGISTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

| STATE. | DATE OF ORGANIZATION | GRAND COMMANDER. | RESIDENCE. | GRAND RECORDER. | RESIDENCE. | Date of last proceedings received. | No. of Subordinates. | Membership. |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| ALABAMA..... | Dec. 1, 1860. | Sir Abram J. Walker..... | Montgomery.. | Sir Daniel Sayre..... | Montgomery.. | Dec. 2, 1869. | 9 | 249 |
| CALIFORNIA..... | Aug. 10, 1858. | Sir Charles L. Wiggin..... | San Francisco. | Sir Lawrence C. Owen..... | San Francisco. | April 11, 1870. | 9 | 367 |
| CONNECTICUT..... | Sept. 13, 1827. | Sir P. St. M. Andrews..... | Norwich..... | Sir John W. Stedman..... | Norwich..... | March 15, 1870. | 9 | 123 |
| GEORGIA..... | April —, 1860. | Sir George S. Osborn..... | Macon..... | Sir Chas. B. Armstrong..... | Macon..... | May 25, 1870. | 7 | 316 |
| ILLINOIS..... | Oct. 27, 1857. | Sir John M. Pearson..... | Godfrey..... | Sir James H. Miles..... | Chicago..... | Oct. 25, 1870. | 38 | 920 |
| INDIANA..... | May 16, 1854. | Sir David P. Wheldon..... | Pt. Wayne..... | Sir John M. Bramwell..... | Indianapolis | April 5, 1870. | 19 | 918 |
| IOWA..... | June 6, 1864. | Sir Robert F. Bower..... | Keokuk..... | Sir W. B. Langridge..... | Muscatine..... | Oct. 18, 1870. | 20 | 720 |
| KANSAS..... | Dec. 29, 1868. | Sir Wm. O. Gould..... | Leavenworth. | Sir Wm. C. Carr..... | Leavenworth. | Oct. 17, 1870. | 5 | 16 |
| KENTUCKY..... | Oct. 5, 1847. | Sir Wm. A. Warner..... | Louisville..... | Sir Wm. C. Minger..... | Franklin..... | June 9, 1870. | 11 | 548 |
| LOUISIANA..... | Feb. 12, 1864. | Sir John A. Stevenson..... | New Orleans.. | Sir Gustavus Sontag..... | New Orleans.. | Feb. 17, 1870. | 13 | 1253 |
| MAINE..... | May 5, 1892. | Sir Charles H. McEllan..... | Bath..... | Sir Ira Berry..... | Portland..... | May 4, 1870. | 11 | 1041 |
| MASS. AND R. I..... | May 13, 1805. | Sir Benjamin Dean..... | Boston..... | Sir Alfred F. Chapman..... | Boston..... | Oct. 28, 1870. | 31 | 3818 |
| MICHIGAN..... | Jan. 23, 1871. | Sir Charles H. Mann..... | Baltimore..... | Sir Frank J. Kugler..... | Baltimore..... | June 1, 1869. | 25 | 1387 |
| MARYLAND..... | Jan. 15, 1857. | Sir Theron A. Flower..... | Pontiac..... | Sir Oliver Bourke..... | Detroit..... | June 24, 1868. | 6 | 341 |
| MINNESOTA..... | Oct. 23, 1865. | Sir E. D. B. Porter..... | Marquette..... | Sir Geo. A. Savory..... | Minneapolis.. | Jan. 24, 1870. | 6 | 197 |
| MISSISSIPPI..... | Jan. 21, 1857. | Sir Charles T. Bond..... | New Albany..... | Sir Geo. A. Savory..... | Jackson..... | Oct. 4, 1870. | 16 | 690 |
| MISSOURI..... | May 21, 1860. | Sir John D. Vincl..... | Columbia..... | Sir George Frank Gouley..... | St. Louis..... | Sept. 17, 1870. | 9 | 781 |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE..... | June 14, 1860. | Sir Wm. W. Barrett..... | Washington.. | Sir John A. Harris..... | Concord..... | Sept. 13, 1870. | 10 | 662 |
| NEW JERSEY..... | Feb. 14, 1860. | Sir V. V. Madison..... | Weymouth..... | Sir Thomas J. Corson..... | Trenton..... | Oct. 11, 1870. | 42 | 5212 |
| NEW YORK..... | June 14, 1844. | Sir George Babcock..... | Elyria..... | Sir Robert Macy..... | Troy..... | Sept. 13, 1870. | 24 | 1764 |
| OHIO..... | Oct. 24, 1843. | Sir Heman Ely..... | Towanda..... | Sir James Nesbitt..... | Washington.. | June 10, 1870. | 37 | 3161 |
| PENNSYLVANIA..... | April 14, 1864. | Sir Henry B. McKean..... | Clarksville..... | Sir John Frizell..... | Nashville..... | June 14, 1870. | 37 | 621 |
| TENNESSEE..... | Jan. 19, 1864. | Sir Achilles D. Sears..... | Burlington..... | Sir B. A. Botts..... | Houston..... | June 13, 1870. | 8 | 218 |
| TEXAS..... | Jan. 17, 1864. | Sir F. E. Sexton..... | Burlington..... | Sir John B. Hollenbeck..... | Burlington..... | June 14, 1870. | 7 | 398 |
| VERMONT..... | Nov. 27, 1853. | Sir Russell S. Taff..... | Lynchburg..... | Sir John B. Dove..... | Richmond..... | Dec. 15, 1870. | 14 | 681 |
| VIRGINIA..... | Nov. 27, 1853. | Sir John R. McDaniel..... | Fond du Lac.. | Sir Wm. T. Palmer..... | Milwaukee..... | Jan. 19, 1870. | 7 | 643 |
| WISCONSIN..... | Oct. 30, 1859. | Sir Wm. H. Hiner..... | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 391 | 28,350 |

APPENDIX.

Report of Committee on Death of Sirs B. B. French, Fulgence Ricau and J. E. McBeth.

To the R. E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery K. T., State of La.:

Pursuant to a resolution of the Grand Commandery, the Committee appointed to prepare a report respecting the death of our honored *fratres* R. E. Sirs B. B. French and Fulgence Ricau, and E. Sir James E. McBeth, submit to you the following:

SIR B. B. FRENCH.

Our revered, venerated and venerable companion, a champion of our Order during many laborious and useful years, crowned with deserved honors and leaving us a priceless legacy in the memory of his noble Masonic words and deeds, has finished his pilgrimage on earth and received his admission into the Sacred Asylum. His faith is sealed and his election accomplished.

The facts of his Masonic life are written in the history of American Masonry. May his virtues be emulated, and his devotion to Masonry imitated.

SIR FULGENCE RICAU.

The Grand Master of the Universe has called from us our estimable and beloved *frater*, R. E. Sir Fulgence Ricau, Past Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana. While humbly submitting to the inscrutable decree of Destiny, we sincerely deplore the loss of a good Mason and worthy Sir Knight.

Fulgence Ricau was born at Viella, Gers Dept., France. He was initiated as a Mason by Perseverance Lodge No. 4, New Orleans, on December 27, 1843, and created a Knight Templar by Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, on December 9, 1844. He died suddenly on the 23d of December, 1869. From time to time he filled the following Masonic offices: Worshipful Master of Perseverance Lodge No. 4, E. King of Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter No. 3, Eminent Commander of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, and R. Eminent Grand Commander of this Grand Commandery. His attachment to Masonry, his assiduity in Masonic work, his natural courtesy and magnanimity made him a most useful member of our Order, and an efficient officer, and

APPENDIX.

ensured the warm esteem of his *fratres*. Generosity, firmness and justice characterized him as a citizen, and won for him the respect of his countrymen.

We shall cherish his memory as that of a true and courteous Knight.

SIR JAMES E. MCBETH.

Sir James E. McBeth was born on the 21st of April, 1840, in the city of New York. He died August 10th, 1870, at Orient, Long Island. He received the first three Masonic degrees in Green Point Lodge No. 403, in the State of New York. On the 5th of March, 1865, he was exalted in Concorde R. A. Chapter No. 2, New Orleans. He was created a Knight Templar on the 24th of May, 1865, in Orleans Commandery No. 3. He held the following Masonic offices: Junior Warden of Corinthian Lodge No. 190; Junior Warden, Captain General, Generalissimo, and Eminent Commander of Orleans Commandery No. 3; and E. Grand Captain General of this Grand Commandery. The two last named posts were occupied by him when he obeyed the summons of the Grand Master of Templars and the Universe.

His openness of heart, integrity and generosity, made Masonry dear to him. With reference to the fraternity, he was ever zealous and open-handed. He acted towards the world as he acted with us. As a Knight, he was gentle, courteous and fearless. *Requiescat in pace.*

Respectfully submitted,

J. Q. A. FELLOWS,
WM. B. WHITAKER,
M. A. CALONGNE.

Officers of Grand Commandery.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Sir JOHN A. STEVENSON..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander.</i> |
| Sir RICHARD LAMBERT..... | <i>V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.</i> |
| Sir WM. R. WHITAKER..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo.</i> |
| Sir HUGH BREEN..... | <i>E. Grand Captain General.</i> |
| Sir H. C. DUNCAN..... | <i>E. Grand Prelate.</i> |
| Sir JOHN H. CLARK..... | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden.</i> |
| Sir WM. L. STANFORD..... | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden.</i> |
| Sir EMANUEL BLESSEY..... | <i>E. Grand Treasurer.</i> |
| Sir GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder.</i> |
| Sir DANIEL E. SCRUGGS..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer.</i> |
| Sir JOHN A. PEEL..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer.</i> |
| Sir CHARLES A. SCOTT..... | <i>E. Grand Warder.</i> |
| Sir RAYMOND S. BURK..... | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards.</i> |

Annual Grand Conclave of 1872.

The next Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, will be held in Grand Lodge, Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Friday, February 16th, A. D. 1872, A. O. 754.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Sirs J. P. HORNOR and M. A. CALONGNE.

To GRAND RECORDERS.

I respectfully request the Grand Recorders of the various Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar, to transmit to me, by separate mails, duplicate copies of their Proceedings, and the favor shall be reciprocated with due courtesy.

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

Lock Box 321, Post Office, New Orleans.

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.



Grand Commandery

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Louisiana

1872.

Freemasons, Louisiana, Knights Templar,
= Grand Commandery.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar,

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA,

AT ITS NINTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE,

New Orleans, February 16th, A. D. 1872, A. O. 754.

| | | |
|----------------------|-------|------------------------|
| SIR RICHARD LAMBERT, | - - - | R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. |
| SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG, | - - - | E. GRAND RECORDER. |



NEW ORLEANS:

A. W. HYATT, PRINT, 38 CAMP STREET.

1872.

HS

757

LS-A2

1872

A. 928416

NINTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE
OF THE
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar
AND
APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

THE R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at its Sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, City of New Orleans, on Friday, February 16th, A. D. 1872, A. O. 754, at 12 o'clock M., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR JOHN A. STEVENSON.....R. E. GRAND COMMANDER.
 " RICHARD LAMBERT.....V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER.
 " WILLIAM R. WHITAKER.....E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO.
 " HUGH BREEN.....E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL.
 " HERMAN C. DUNCAN.....E. GRAND PRELATE.
 " JOHN H. CLARKE.....E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.
 " W. L. STANFORD.....E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.
 " EMANUEL BLESSEY.....E. GRAND TREASURER.
 " GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....E. GRAND RECORDER.
 " M. A. CALONGNE.....as E. GRAND STANDARD BEARER.
 " GEORGE BALDEYas E. GRAND SWORD BEARER.
 " RUFUS L. BRUCE.....as E. GRAND WARDER.
 " RAYMOND S. BURK.....E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR HENRY R. SWASEY.....P. R. E. Grand Commander.
 " J. Q. A. FELLOWS....." " "
 " SAM'L M. TODD....." " "
 " JAMES B. SCOTP. V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.
 " T. A. BARTLETT.....P. E. Grand Generalissimo.
 " M. A. CALONGUE.....P. E. Grand Captain General.

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS OF SUBORDINATE
COMMANDERIES:

SIR JOHN G. FLEMING.....Indivisible Friends No. 1.
 SIR THOMAS CRIPPS.....Orleans No. 3.

. GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODD.....Pennsylvania, New York,
Kentucky, Georgia, and California.
SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR.....Missouri.
" JAMES C. BATCHELOR.....Tennessee.
" J. Q. A. FELLOWS.....Minnesota, Vermont,
Kansas and Wisconsin.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.
The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir
Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns:

SIR T. A. BARTLETTE, of Indivisible Friends Commandry No. 1.
" G. SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandry No. 2.
" GEO. BALDEY, of Orleans Commandry No. 3.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns then submitted the
following report, which was read and adopted:

NEW ORLEANS, February 17th, 1872.

To the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Credentials respectfully report the following Command-
eries entitled to representation, and the following Sir Knights entitled to seats
in the Grand Commandery, as legal representatives:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY NO. 1.

S. Hopkins, Jr. E. C.; I. W. Homan, G.; John A. Peel, C. G.

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY NO. 2.

J. H. DeGrange, E. C.; H. P. Buckley, G. (Z. M. Pike, proxy); R. L.
Bruce, C. G.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY NO. 3.

Geo. Baldey, E. C.; John H. Clarke, G.; N. Burbank, C. G.

Courteously submitted,

T. A. BARTLETTE,
GEO. BALDEY,
G. SONTAG,

Committee.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were
found represented, viz:

Indivisible Friends No. 1; Jacques De Molay No. 2; Orleans No. 3.

Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, Grand Master of Templars of the U. S.,
entered the Sacred Asylum, escorted by Sir Knights James B. Scot
and S. Hopkins, Jr., and was received with the honors due to his
exalted station.

The R. E. Grand Commander then delivered the following

ADDRESS :

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS—With feelings of thankfulness, not unmixed with pleasure, I congratulate you on being once more permitted to meet in our Sacred Asylum to deliberate on the wants, legislate for the good, and perform the various duties incumbent on us, under the regulations of this Grand Commandery.

In the performance of these duties, I am satisfied that, as heretofore, they will be characterized by pleasant intercourse and true knightly courtesy.

Although we meet here to-day in the full enjoyment of health and its attendant blessings, it is a duty incumbent on us as true Christian Knights, to bestow a token of our remembrance on those who have passed away from us and forever.

Since our last Annual Conclave, Sir Knight Daniel E. Scruggs, our Eminent Grand Standard Bearer, has ended his pilgrimage of warfare on earth, and passed, as we fervently hope, to where he has received that reward, which our Lord Jesus Christ has promised to all who are his faithful followers.

It having been impossible for me to attend the triennial meeting of the Grand Encampment of the United States, assembled in the City of Baltimore in September last, I gave my proxy to R. E. P. G. C. Sir Joseph P. Hornor, in whom you had an able and worthy representative.

No circumstances have arisen since our last Annual Conclave, to call for any official action at my hands, through the action of our subordinate commanderies; and this fact alone affords the most gratifying evidence of the fraternal feeling which so happily exist in this jurisdiction.

I will, however, call your attention to the fact that, in my official capacity, I have received Orders Nos. 1, 2 and 3, issued by Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, M. E. Grand Master of Templars of the United States, which are herewith appended, together with my official order No. 1, which has already been promulgated to the several subordinate commanderies in this jurisdiction, and to which you are courteously referred.

Order No. 1 of the M. E. G. M. of Templars of the United States, had reference to the terrible conflagration which laid waste so large a portion of the City of Chicago, and was an appeal to the Templars throughout the United States to contribute to the relief of their suffering brothers of that city. It was received by me at so late a period, that those of our noble Order had contributed, not only in their capacity as citizens, but many of them, in response to a call made upon them in their character, as Masons, by M. W. Sam'l M. Todd, Grand Master of Masons of Louisiana. Hence, I made no special appeal to the Templars of Louisiana.

Order No. 2 of the M. E. G. M. of Templars of the United States, not having been received until within the past week, is herewith appended, as above stated, and to which your attention has already been called, requires some legislation at your hands during your present Conclave.

On the 24th ult., I received from M. W. Samuel M. Todd, G. M. of Masons of this State, an invitation to this Grand Commandery, to participate in and assist the M. W. G. Lodge in the ceremonies in laying the Corner Stone of the new Masonic Temple, in this city, on the 15th day of February, 1872.

In acceptance of said invitation, in the name and on behalf of this Grand Commandery, I issued order No. 2, to the E. Cs. of the subordinate commanderies, which is hereunto annexed.

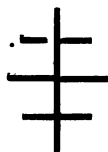
It is unnecessary for me to do more than make mere mention, that in accordance with Order No. 2, this Grand Commandery, and the Sir Knights of the various subordinate commanderies under our banners, assisted in the ceremonies of laying said Corner Stone.

From the returns made by subordinate bodies, you have the gratifying evidence, that Templar Masonry in this jurisdiction, although not increasing as rapidly as in some other States, yet is healthful and prosperous.

[Order No. 2.]

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, }
FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. }

SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS, M. E. Grand Master.



To all our Grand Officers, the Grand Commanders of our State Grand Commanderies, and the Commanders of Commanderies holding Charters immediately from our Grand Encampment—
GREETING:

WHEREAS, at a stated meeting of our Grand Encampment, held at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, on the 21st day of September, A. D. 1871, the following Amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Encampment having received the concurrence of three-fourths of the members present, were declared adopted, and proclaimed as a part of the Constitution, and are now officially promulgated as in force for your government and the Sir Knights under your respective jurisdictions.

Done at New Orleans, this 10th day of November, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one.

BY THE GRAND MASTER.



Attest my hand and the Seal of our Grand Encampment, at Iowa City, Iowa, this 10th day of November, A. O. 753.

THEODORE SUTTON PARVIN,
Gr. Recorder.

NOTE—The delay in issuing this order arose from the fact that I submitted it to several officers, and past officers as well as the authors of the several amendments, for their revision, as the minutes were of such a character that I could not determine satisfactorily whether I had deciphered them correctly or not. They are published as corrected by the Board of Revision.

DECEMBER 15th, 1871.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

I.

To modify the second paragraph of Division 1, Section 5, Art. 1. (specifying the duties of the Grand Master): so as to read, after the word "following," thus: "to appoint a Grand Prelate, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder, Grand Captain of the Guard, to serve during the term of the office of the Grand Master making the appointment."

Adopted September 20th, 1871.

II.

Add to Sec. 1, Article II. (of the Constitution of State Grand Commanderies) as paragraph third, following the word "members," in the eighth line, the following:

"The first nine of whom shall be elected by ballot, and the remaining four officers, tenth and thirteenth inclusive, shall be elected or appointed as the Grand Commandery may direct."

Adopted September 21st, 1871.

III.

Add to Sec. 5, Art. II. (specifying the duties of the Grand Commander) as paragraph five, next immediately before the last, the following:

"During the recess of his Grand Commandery he may suspend from the functions of his office any officer of the Grand or Subordinate Commandery, or arrest the Charter or Warrant of a Commandery; but, in neither case shall such suspension affect the standing in the Order of such officer, or his membership in the Commandery. And he shall report his action in full therein to the next Conclave of the Grand Commandery for its final action."

Adopted September 21st, 1871.

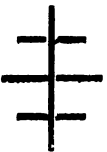
IV.

Add to Sec. 1, Art. IV. (specifying the "Fees, Dues and Finances," as paragraph first, the following:

"The State Grand Commanderies, in such manner as they may respectively determine, shall annually collect, and pay to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, an amount equal to five cents for each sir knight returned as a member of their respective Subordinate Commanderies, at the meeting of the Grand Commandery preceding August the first in each year. This fund with the returns of the Grand Commandery as required in Art. II., Sec. 5, Division 4, shall be forwarded to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment on or before the first day of August in each year."

Adopted September 21st, 1871.

[Order No. 3.]



GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR,
FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. }

SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS, M. E. Grand Master :

*To all the Grand Commanders of our State Grand Commanderies,
and the Commanders of Commanderies holding their Charters
immediately from our Grand Encampment—GREETING :*

WHEREAS, The first clause of paragraph 1, of Section 5, of Article I., of Constitution of the Grand Encampment, in defining the duties of the Grand Master, expressly provides that, "as a part thereof, he shall have a watchful supervision over all the Commanderies, State and Subordinate, in the United States, and see that all the constitutional enactments, rules and edicts of the Grand Encampment are duly and properly observed, and that the dress, work, and discipline of Templar Masonry everywhere are uniform."

AND, WHEREAS, At this time, under the foregoing provision of the Constitution, the Grand Master has occasion only to call the attention of all Commanderies, whether Grand or Subordinate, to the edicts of the Grand Encampment upon the subject of dress, enacted in 1862, and to urge a greater uniformity.

To this end, therefore, he has caused to be re-published the *Edict of the Grand Encampment of 1862*, (pp. 45 to 50 of the Proceedings of that session), as hereto appended, and to order a strict compliance therewith. That edict is absolute in its character, and supercedes and repeals all former enactments, rules and edicts upon the subject. The costume it prescribes is, as reported by the committee, neat, durable, economical, and distinctive in character, and no excuse can be considered satisfactory why the same should not have long since become universal.

In addition to the failure to adopt, a worse evil has, however, begun to prevail—that of innovation and change—and to this tendency this order is more particularly directed. Simply to illustrate the character of the departures from a strict uniformity, the coat may be instanced. The only description in the edict is, “a black frock coat.” This can mean nothing else than the frock coat of society, cut in the usual style, of the ordinary length, with such buttons as are usually worn, and those placed in the ordinary manner; in other words, a “black frock coat” is one that can be worn on any occasion, and wherever a black frock coat may be worn, and which may not cause any distinctive observation or remark whatever.

These remarks may be applied to every other article of dress, costume, or uniform, or whatsoever may be included in the edict hereto appended.

There are to be added to the articles specified, under the heads “Full Dress” and “Fatigue Dress,” those trimmings, etc., which are described in the edict, and as there described, and absolutely no other. A strict observance of these directions is necessary to uniformity, and to prevent that tendency to extravagance of dress which is hardly consistent with the vows of a Templar.

We trust, therefore, that each Commander to whom this shall come, will comply with the terms of this order, and enforce a strict uniformity, and see that his command is fully and properly uniformed.

Done at New Orleans, Louisiana, this 30th day of December, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one.

{ SEAL. }

BY THE GRAND MASTER,
Attest my hand and the Seal of our Grand Encampment, at Iowa City, Iowa, December 30th, A. O. 753.

T. S. PARVIN,
Gr. Recorder.

[General Order No. 1.]

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,
†THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }
New Orleans, January 25, 1872.

To the Eminent Commanders of all Commanderies within the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and to all the Officers and Members of this Grand Commandery—GREETING:

The enclosed “Order No. 3,” of the Grand Master of Knights Templar of the United States of America, is hereby promulgated; its provisions will be strictly enforced in this jurisdiction, from and after this date. Eminent Commanders of Subordinate Commanderies are charged to see to its execution in their respective Commands.

By order of

JOHN A. STEVENSON,
Grand Commander.

{ SEAL. }

Attest:

G. SONTAG, *Grand Recorder.*

[General Order No. 2.]

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,
†THE GRAND COMMMDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }
New Orleans, January 25, 1872.

To the Eminent Commanders of all Commanderies within this jurisdiction:

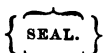
1st. The Grand Master of Masons of Louisiana, has extended an invitation through me, to all the Knights Templar of this jurisdiction, to participate in the public ceremonies, upon the laying of the Corner-Stone of the New Masonic

Temple, on Thursday, the 15th day of February next. I propose to accept such invitation, in the name and on behalf of the Grand Commandery, and to parade all the Templars of this jurisdiction, under the banners of the Grand Commandery only.

2d. You will, as soon as practicable, communicate this Order to your several Commanderies, and report to me, on or before Monday, 5th February next, the number of Sir Knights belonging to your several Commands, who will join the Grand Commandery, and who are furnished with the full regulation uniform.

By order of

JOHN A. STEVENSON,
Grand Commander.



Attest:

G. SONTAG, *Grand Recorder.*

On motion of R. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, it was

Resolved, First—That that portion of the address in reference to Order No. 2, of the Grand Encampment of the United States, be referred to a Special Committee of three. Second—That portion having reference to the death of Sir D. S. Scruggs, also to a Special Committee of three.

Sirs T. A. Bartlette, J. B. Robertson and Z. M. Pike were appointed under the first resolution, and Sirs James B. Scot, Geo. Baldey and G. Sontag, under the second resolution.

The Grand Treasurer submitted the following report, which was received and vouchers ordered to be cancelled:

Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana,

In account with Emanuel Blessey, Grand Treasurer:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----------------|
| 1871. | CR. | |
| February 17—Balance..... | | \$106 37 |
| 1872. | | |
| January — —Cash received..... | | 35 00 |
| February 16—Cash received..... | | 130 00—\$261 37 |
| 1872. | DR. | |
| Paid order No. 21—R. S. Burk..... | | \$ 5 00 |
| 32—G. Sontag..... | | 10 00 |
| 33—C. W. Clark..... | | 9 00 |
| 34—C. W. Clark..... | | 192 20 |
| 35—H. R. Swasey..... | | 26 00 |
| February 17—Balance | | 19 17—\$261 37 |
| February 17—Balance..... | | <u>\$24 17</u> |

E. & O. E.

EMANUEL BLESSEY,
Grand Treasurer.

New Orleans, February 17, 1872.

The Grand Recorder submitted the following report, which was received and ordered to be spread on the minutes :

NEW ORLEANS, February 16, 1872.

To the Grand Commandery of K. T. of the State of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS—In the discharge of my duty as Grand Recorder, I submit to you the following report of the transactions of my office since your last Annual Conclave.

In obedience to instructions received, five hundred copies of the proceedings were printed, and copies sent to the different Grand Commanderies, Masonic papers and subordinate Commanderies of this jurisdiction.

I have received several communications from Sir Knight T. S. Parvin, Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of the United States, asking for copies of proceedings and information in regard to Templar Masonry in Louisiana, which requests have been complied with as far as possible.

Credentials have been received from the Grand Commanderies of Wisconsin and Kansas, appointing R. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows as Grand Representative of those States near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana ; also, from the Grand Commandery of California, appointing R. E. Sir Sam'l M. Todd as the Grand Representative of that State, near this Grand Commandery.

I have received a number of copies of the address of Sir S. W. Gardner, Past Grand Master of Templars of the United States, which are at your disposal.

Herewith you have my account current for your approval.

G. Sontag, in account with the Grand Commandery :

1872.

DR.

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|---|------------------------|
| January 5—To Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2..... | \$ 35 00 |
| February 16—To Indivisible Friends Commandery No 1..... | 75 00 |
| “ 16—To Orleans Commandery No 3..... | 50 00— <u>\$160 00</u> |

1872.

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| January 5—By Grand Treasurer..... | \$ 35 00 |
| February 15— “ “ | 125 00— <u>\$160 00</u> |

Courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,
Grand Recorder.

The following report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was submitted on behalf of Sir Jos. P. Hornor, which was received and ordered to be published with the proceedings :

NEW ORLEANS, February 16, 1872.

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of Louisiana:

SIR KNIGHTS—Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence have received the transactions of the Grand Commanderies of the following named States :

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|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| ALABAMA, 1870. | KENTUCKY, 1871. | NEW JERSEY, 1871. |
| CALIFORNIA, 1871. | MAINE, 1871. | OHIO, 1871. |
| CONNECTICUT, 1871. | MARYLAND, 1871. | PENNSYLVANIA, 1871. |
| GEORGIA, 1871. | MASS. AND R. I., 1870. | TENNESSEE, 1871. |
| KANSAS, 1871. | MICHIGAN, 1870. | TEXAS, 1871. |
| ILLINOIS, 1870. | MINNESOTA, 1871. | VERMONT, 1871. |
| INDIANA, 1871. | MISSISSIPPI, 1870, 1871. | VIRGINIA, 1870. |
| IOWA, 1871. | MISSOURI, 1871. | WISCONSIN, 1871. |

All of these proceedings have the pure air of courteous chivalry, and all declare that throughout the length and breadth of the land, Peace and Harmony prevail; the assured prosperity of our beloved order, the steady and healthy increase of our numbers, the high moral characteristics that are developed amongst us, and the influence we are gradually extending, are set forth at length in these volumes, and debated and discussed with an ability only more remarkable from its temperance than its zeal. Few questions involving any difference of opinion have arisen, and we propose to notice only the most prominent subjects brought forward.

VIOLETION OF JURISDICTIONAL RIGHTS.

But one case is reported, and that is one in which a California Companion received the orders in New Hampshire; a fraternal correspondence, between the two Grand Commanders, arose out of the violation, in which the courteous appeal of the one for redress, caused frank and prompt investigation on the part of the other, resulting in a declaration that the subordinate Commandery had acted upon the representations of the candidate, that he intended to make his future residence within its jurisdiction, and that although in the opinion of the Grand Commander the subordinate had not been to blame, it was ready to make any reparation in its power. To this the Grand Commander of California replies that the reparation suggests itself; that if it can be shown that the candidate, by a wilful misrepresentation of facts, has induced a trespass upon the rights of others, the duty of the Commandery so trespassing is obvious, and, should it neglect to perform it, its Grand Commandery should see justice done; with all of which we heartily concur, and the prompt expulsion of the Knight who wears spurs won by falsehood and deception, cannot be too quickly accomplished; it is the only remedy for an evil that cannot always be detected until after its completion, and which can be prevented only by swift and inexorable examples, and in self defence all Grand Commanderies should insist upon a strict observance of the rule, for apart from the immorality of the act, the very existence of our State Grand Bodies, if not of the Order itself, depends upon a scrupulous observance of jurisdictional rights. A man who has been made a Royal Arch Mason surely knows that he cannot legally receive any Masonic degree except at the place of his domicile, and the fact of his applying elsewhere for advancement is convincing proof that he could not obtain it at home, and therefore deliberately perpetrates a fraud upon the brethren of his residence when he so applies in another place, and acts a deception upon those of the latter; if this is overlooked, it becomes a precedent, others follow the example so successfully set them, until finally the bad element would prevail in

the Order and destruction follow. But if, on the contrary, immediately upon its discovery, the fraudulent deceiver be cut off at once and forever from the society he has crawled into, and loaded with disgrace and ignominy, instead of honors and congratulations, men will prefer to remain without the walls of our sanctuary rather than be expelled, with nothing for their pains, and will knock boldly at the proper door with a feeling of certainty that none but good and true pass through it.

COUNCIL DEGREES.

Notwithstanding the very effectual quietus which the Grand Encampment of the United States put upon the proposition to make the possession of the Degrees of Royal and Select Master a necessary qualification for the Orders of the Temple, the subject has been considerably discussed; the advocates of the measure are, of course, in the minority, but consist of Sir Knights whose abilities and numbers are worthy of respectful attention to their views; but the most of these seem to be actuated by a species of charity for the Council Degrees, and their strongest argument is that it is necessary for the existence of those degrees. We cannot believe this in its broadness; while we admit the languishing condition of Cryptic Masonry, and that the proposed amendment would give it great relief, we do not believe that it would die without it; if we are wrong, it had better die, and the sooner the better; we are quite confident that if it has not merit enough in itself to preserve it from destruction, it would not be of advantage to Templar Masonry. The action had at Baltimore we hope will set the matter at rest forever, and we rejoice to notice that Connecticut has stricken from her by-laws a clause long held there in defiance of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States, which required candidates for our orders in that State to be possessed of the degrees of Royal and Select Master.

KNIGHT OF THE RED CROSS.

We fear that we see a speck of trouble in connection with the Order of Knight of the Red Cross; this order, it seems, is not conferred in the Commanderies of the Dominion of Canada, and its non-possession by our fraters on the other side of the river has rendered it necessary to confer it upon them before they can be admitted to visit us; to obviate this inconvenience, we understand that it is proposed that the Councils of Royal and Select Masters of the Dominion shall assume jurisdiction over this degree, and there the Council degrees can then be made pre-requisite to the Order of the Temple. We sincerely trust that we have been misinformed in this matter, and that no such intention exists; were it attempted to be carried out, it might cause an edict of non-intercourse and a declaration of clandestinity, and would give rise to serious complications and immovable difficulties. Councils of Royal and Select Masters are, as Masonic bodies, unknown to the Knights Templars of the United States, and with whom they have frequently and positively refused any affiliation or recognition, and it is quite impossible that an Order of Knighthood conferred by the Templars of this country can be recognized as legal when pretended to be conferred by a strange body in another land; a Knight Templar could as well claim of us recognition as a Knight of the Red Cross,

because he had been told he received it in a Lodge of Odd Fellows! And, just here, we would like to ask from whence the Councils of Royal and Select Masters of the Dominion of Canada propose to obtain the Order of Knights of the Red Cross? Surely not from any of their valiant fraters who have visited our Commanderies and there received it? Certainly not from any authority in the United States, for none such exists, even in the Grand Encampment itself! We trust that there is no foundation for the fear we have entertained.

UNIFORM, DRILL AND ENCAMPMENTS.

These subjects occupy more of the attention of our fraters than any others, and they are, indeed, very important. It is very evident that our present uniform does not give universal satisfaction, and that in all directions suggestions are made for its improvement and modification, yet it is quite clear also, that a very large majority are opposed to any change. A proposition was made at Baltimore, which had our sympathy, to get rid of the shoulder straps and signalize the rank of the officer by a different colored plume and belt; purple for Grand Master, crimson for officers of Grand Commandery, green for Commanders, etc.; and there were other propositions suggesting other alterations. Illinois, in 1871, assumed (without any authority) to prescribe a uniform for itself; it is similar to that of the Grand Encampment, with sundry and divers additions in the shape of gold lace on officers' hats, and crosses on the collars (*a la "so-called"* uniform). The Grand Encampment was much exorcised over the matter of uniform, and appointed a very able committee to discuss it, which they did to disagreement, the majority making a compromise report and the minority advocating the laying of the whole subject on the table; and although we are sure that a majority of the members present were in favor of a change, yet an overwhelming number were opposed to that reported by the majority of the Committee; the minority report was almost unanimously adopted, and the subject matter was, we trust, consigned for a long time to come, to the tomb of the Capulets. We have held official position long enough to have seen this same action thrice repeated, at Columbus in 1865, at St. Louis in 1868, and in Baltimore in 1871, and we think it is time that it ceased to be discussed and that everybody should submit and conform to the law as it is, and stop the wearing of unauthorized trappings and trimmings. We are no defender of the propriety of the incongruous uniform the law compels us to wear, but we fear and obey the law, and know that it is best for all to do so. The action of the Grand Encampment has been followed by a specific edict of the Grand Master, based upon that action, and the death knell of gold lace and major general coats has sounded, and we shall see them no more amongst us.

The subject of drill has been thoroughly discussed in the Grand Commanderies, and it is to be regretted that no action could be had upon it at Baltimore, but it was so clearly allied with the question of uniform that it shared the same fate, and no action was had upon it. It is not so important, to our mind, that we should have a common system of drill, as it is that our dress should be uniform, for it may never be that Commanderies from different States shall be drilled together, and if that should happen, little difference ex-

ists in the battallion exercises of the different tacticians; the farthest that the Grand Encampment has ever gone in this direction, was, at Columbus, in 1865, to *recommend* the system of drill compiled by R. E. Sir Orrin Welsh, of New York; this we have always used ourself, and found it to answer all needful purposes; but after witnessing the beautiful evolutions executed at Baltimore under other systems, we would not willingly see its use made compulsory. The difficulty in the matter of drill is not so much the want of uniformity in the various Grand Commanderies, but the entire lack of attention to it; all over the country Grand Commanders are exhorting their members to pay attention to this; the civilization of the times has made it necessary that Knights Templars should frequently appear in public, and much as some of our older heads may object to this as unmasonic, it will be done, and if an excuse is necessary it will be soon urged that parades are made not as *Masons*, but as Templars, and if so made, and they will be, a certain amount of drilling is necessary to present a respectable appearance; the peculiar ceremonies of the opening and closing of a Commandery of Knights Templars should never be omitted; the Grand Commandery of Alabama has wisely intimated its pleasure in that direction, by a resolution, which next year may be an edict, and the necessity seems apparent, to at least prohibit, in some manner, the public appearance of any undrilled Sir Knight in uniform.

Encampments still continue to be held in many jurisdictions, and we are induced to believe with good results; much opposition is still manifested to them, but seems to have little strength; in more than one Grand Commandery majorities of committees have recommended their abolition, but the reports of the minorities of the same committees have always been adopted. We believe that each State must regulate this matter to suit itself, its own peculiar views and its own particular members; while at this time we would be opposed to it in Louisiana, we can readily conceive that an Encampment in Connecticut might be productive of very happy results.

JURISPRUDENCE.

In the many pamphlets before us, there are, of course, numerous decisions on points of law that have arisen, but most of them are unimportant and few of a novel character. In Missouri, however, a point has been officially decided, which we always thought perfectly plain, but which must now stand unassailable. All who were at Baltimore in September last, will remember the very much to be regretted conflict of authority between the Deputy Grand Commander of that State and the Commander of one of his subordinate commanderies, and the refusal of the latter to obey the orders of the former, because neither was in their own State. The decision of the Grand Commandery of Missouri, in favor of the position assumed by its Deputy Grand Commander, establishes the law to be, that the superior officers of Knights Templars of a certain State have command of them when assembled as such, whether within their own jurisdiction or not, and that when the chief officer is absent, from any cause, from the particular place where Knights Templars are assembled as such, the next in rank assumes, of right, the chief command, and this, whether in public or private.

REPRESENTATION.

The system of an exchange of Representatives between the several Grand Commanderies has been almost universally adopted. In Michigan, however, it was rejected upon the report of a committee stating, that as they were receiving the printed reports of the doings of Masonic Bodies all over the continent without any considerable expense, any show, and with great practical effect, they could not recommend the adoption of the system of representation; this would seem to imply that representation cost a large amount of money, involved much parade, and had little practical effect, all of which is directly contrary to our experience. We are glad to mention, in this connection, that the subject of the interchange of Representatives between our Grand Commanderies was approvingly touched upon by our learned Past Grand Master, M. E. Sir William S. Gardner, who acknowledged that he saw nothing improper in it while confined to those bodies, jealously asserting, at the same time, and very properly, too, the exclusive right of the Grand Encampment to receive and appoint Representatives from and to Foreign Grand Bodies.

VIRGINIA AND RHODE ISLAND.

The Grand Commandery of Virginia, in accordance with its resolutions, through its delegates, brought before the Grand Encampment its request to be allowed to sever its connection with the present body, and we were much pleased with the very courteous manner in which her claims were pressed; that her demands should be refused must have been foreseen by her own fraters, for it would have been suicidal to have granted them; but resolutions affirming and continuing the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, over the territory of the State of West Virginia were adopted, with but little opposition, and we think will give general satisfaction, and heal all differences, if any exist.

An effort was also made to induce action looking to a separation of the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, but the Grand Encampment declined to interfere.

Both these actions were undoubtedly proper at that time, but we believe that if separate Grand Commanderies for West Virginia and Rhode Island should ever be needed and desired by the majority of the fraters of those States, and the probability is that such will some day be the case, then the separation can and will be, peaceably and fraternally consummated, without any interference by the Grand Encampment.

NEW JERSEY.

For reasons which will be sufficiently evident by further perusal, or without it, we are constrained to make a distinct review of the transactions of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey, which held its Annual Grand Conclave at Trenton, 12th September, 1871. The Grand Commander, R. E. Sir John V. Mattison, delivered an interesting address, concluding with the announcement of his retiring from command, but acknowledging that he hoped "to have still an opportunity to cultivate and enjoy the society of his fraters at some of the *social reunions for which Knights Templars of New Jersey are celebrated*;" which sentiment we enthusiastically reiterate on our own behalf.

The inevitable Sir Thomas J. Corson was in his place as Grand Recorder, and with a degree of impudence unsurpassed in the annals of this world, reports, "that the duties of my office have been performed with care and promptness." In the Grand Commanderies of the United States such reports are usually made by the committees appointed to investigate the doings of the Grand Recorders.

The same irrepressible Sir Knight submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence, which occupies upwards of nine-tenths of the volume before us. He reviews our proceedings of 1871, and in noticing our last address, says it is rather subdued for us, which quality he apparently approves, for he actually makes an extract, with approbation; and in a long criticism upon Sir James B. Scot's report on Correspondence, agrees with every position assumed. Truly, our friend must have been in an amiable mood!

We had intended to have attempted, in some part of this report, to describe the hospitable reception which we met at Baltimore, and to acknowledge the courtesies there showered upon us, and to briefly detail the doings of the Grand Encampment, but Corson has done all this so well that we feel justified in taking it from him bodily, and giving his effort to our fraters instead of any attempt of our own, which must need be greatly inferior, merely premising that his remarks relative to New Jersey and her delegation are equally applicable to Louisiana and hers:

By permission of the Grand Commandery, we are authorized to give some account of the Eighteenth Triennial Session of this Grand Body, which occurred at Baltimore, on the 19th to 22d days of this month (September). As this is written while our proceedings are in press—and the reporter in press, too, for the horrid cry of the printer for "copy" is sounding in our ears from "early morn till dewy eve"—and as we must write from memory, not having access to the recorded minutes, our account of the meeting will of necessity be meagre and imperfect.

On Tuesday morning, September 19th, the Grand Encampment was opened in ample form, with solemn ceremonies, Sir William Sewall Gardner presiding. The session continued for four days, during which time much important business was transacted, although truth compels us to say that pleasure excursions, parades and merry-makings interfered sadly with the performance of duty. We think that some means should be devised by which this great evil may be caused to cease. The representatives of a Grand Commandery have no right whatever to absent themselves from the meetings of the Grand Encampment, except on business alone, and that of the most imperative and obligatory nature, for by thus doing they fail to represent their constituents. New Jersey, by one or more of her representatives, was at all hours at the post of duty. Some of us who are permanent members did not feel it incumbent upon us to be so close in our attendance, for we had gone to Baltimore almost as much for pleasure as for business; but those whose business it was *directly* to represent this Grand Commandery, failed not at any time in their devotion to the sacred duty assigned to them. We do not say this in any spirit of self-glorification, but it is an act of simple justice that this record should be made. New Jersey was represented by her four officers.

The business of the session was transacted with great harmony and good feeling, each of the members seeming to appreciate the responsibility resting upon him.

The following officers were elected :

- Sir J. Q. A. FELLOWS, of Louisiana, M. E. G. Master.
- " JAMES H. HOPKINS, of Pennsylvania, Dep. G. Master.
- " VINCENT L. HURLBURT, of Illinois, G. Generalissimo.
- " BENJ. DEAN, of Massachusetts, G. Captain General.
- " JOHN W. SIMONS, of New York, G. Treasurer.
- " T. S. PARVIN, of Iowa, G. Recorder.
- " WILLIAM W. GOODWIN, of New Jersey, G. Stand. Bearer.
- " CHARLES R. WOODRUFF, of Kentucky, G. Sword Bearer:
- " RUSSELL S. TAFT, of Vermont, G. Warder.

The next meeting of the Grand Encampment will be held at New Orleans, on the first Tuesday in December, 1874.

It would be churlish and unknighly in us to pass by in silence the magnificent reception—the heart-warm welcome given to us by the valiant Knights of Baltimore; and yet we tremble in making the effort, for who can put in cold words the friendly grasp of the hand, the warm language of fraternal greeting, the silent eloquence of the eye radiant with light and love, which met us wherever we went, and proved that every heart of those Knights received us as brethren and kinsfolk. From the moment we set foot in Baltimore until our unwilling steps departed thence, nothing but kindness and fraternal love, shown by word and deed, were exhibited toward us. The whole city seemed to be given up to our use—even citizens who were not members of our Order vied with each other in their kind attentions toward us. Why, even the hotel-keepers, of whom some claim to think harshly, allowed us to sleep in their entries, in their garrets, their parlors and their door-steps, and they went so far as to provide refreshment for the inner man during all hours of the day and night. This generous behavior so touched our hearts that each of us, upon leaving, deposited a slight testimonial of gratitude with these kind providers of substantial comforts. These parallelogrammatic evidences of our affection and obligation bore upon their face the likeness of various characters not unknown to fame, such as the sainted Stanton, the translated Abraham, Washington without his hatchet, the electric Franklin, and others. Each of these testimonials bore the mysterious signature of a mythical character by the name of "Spinner," who is, we believe, one of the household of a distinguished character who rejoices in the cognomen of "Uncle Sam," whose residence is a few miles South of Baltimore, and who seems to be much respected throughout the land.

These Baltimoreans seem to be remorseless fellows, for they fairly surfeited us with good things. We had parades and serenades, excursions and banquets, balls and entertainments, levees and matinees—why, what did we not have? Maryland Commandery No. 1, Baltimore Commandery No. 2, and Monumental Commandery No. 3, kept rooms open in different parts of the city for visitors every afternoon and evening, and they were constantly crowded by the beauty and loveliness of the *élite* of Baltimore society, who shed their smiles of approval upon the Sir Knights and visitors who thronged the apartments. How many "hops" and "receptions" we attended we dare not tell, lest we might be accused of having forgotten our years, and of making an effort to regain our lost youth. And there we saw the ladies of Baltimore, whose claims of person and mind the trump of fame has already widely proclaimed, and whom all must acknowledge to be peerless. As we saw those sparkling eyes, those lovely lips wreathed in smiles almost divine, the dimples wherein resistless Cupids were enshrined, and heard the silver-sweet voices of joy and gladness, we trembled at the power of fascination to which the susceptible male youths were subjected. We feared that the fate of some of these poor fellows would be like that of Monsieur Sisera, when he was introduced to Madame Jael, at whose "feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down; at her feet he bowed, he fell; where he bowed, there he fell down dead." We are told that in ancient

times the denizens of the celestial regions left their blissful abode to take to themselves wives from among the "daughters of men," and all we have to say about it is that if those "daughters of men" were anywhere near equal to these "blooming belles of Baltimore," we don't wonder that they did it.

While we were gazing with rapt vision on a scene of ravishing beauty at one of these evening receptions, a wretched lunatic from Missouri placed his hand on our shoulder, and whispered in our ear: "I say, old fellow, ain't it splendid? Never saw anything like it since I was weaned. These fair ladies seem to think, with St. Peter, that their 'adorning' should not consist in 'putting on of apparel.' Don't they look nice and cool? Eh? Are they going in to swim?" We turned to the young man, with feelings of sorrow not unmixed with anger, and sternly addressed him: "Rash youth, are you aware that there is another person by the name of Gouley in this house?" Whereupon, Master Frank suddenly subsided, and imploringly asked: "Where is she? Have you seen her? Has she seen me? If you meet her, tell her that I am busy at a committee meeting," and he left. We do not know whether the committee has reported yet or not; it was the Committee on Domestic Relations.

One of the most noteworthy features of this most majestic celebration, was the banquet given by Mary Commandery, of Philadelphia, to the officers and members of the Grand Encampment of the United States. The entertainment was held at the Maryland Institute, on Tuesday evening, September 19th, and it was perfect in all its parts, and complete as a whole. The assemblage was large, and was graced by the presence of ladies, as all Masonic banquets should be. The ladies were there as guests, not as spectators, and sat down with us, right by our side—and he's a mighty poor Templar who can't get a lady to sit by his side.

The toast to "Woman" was responded to by Sir James H. Hopkins, of Pennsylvania, and we regret to say that the newspaper report does great injustice to his beautiful speech. We sat next to this "eloquent orator of the West," and will endeavor to give some of the gems which fell from his inspired lips. With quaking knees and tremulous voice he thus spoke:

"Mr. Most Eminent President, dear sisters, beloved brethren, and you other fellows:

"Woman is an institution—she is a great institution. Without her, where would you be, sir? Where would I be? Where would any other man be? From early infancy to decrepid age, woman is our guardian angel—our protector—our joy—our delight—our—oh, 'you know how it is yourself.' The learned Blackstone, whose humble disciple I am, saith of her:

Fee simple and simple fee

With all the fees entail,

Are nothing when compared to thee,

Thou best of fees, female.

(Applause.) "She is the source of all the wit, wisdom, eloquence and virtue which the world possesses. With her, man can accomplish miracles; without her, he is powerless. She originates ideas, we execute them. Who first started a salt mine? Why, Lot's wife, and wasn't she a woman? Wasn't Jacl a good carpenter when she 'nailed' Sisera? Who can estimate her power—that mighty power to which we all so willingly yield obedience? Wasn't Eve a woman? And didn't she engage in the fruit business, even before she wore pantalettes? And hasn't Dr. Creigh proved, by ancient documents, that the first who 'struck oil' in the great State of Pennsylvania were the five 'wise virgins' who filled their lamps before they started to attend the marriage feast? And dare we doubt that they were women? Ain't Susan G. Anthony, and Victoria Woodhull, and Theodore Tilton, women? And ain't they the great reformers of the age? What man in the annals of fame has ever achieved greatness unless he had a woman for a wife or a mother? *Sine foemina nulla fama*, saith the classic poet.

"If it wasn't for woman, who would take care of our babies? Who would starch our collars or darn our stockings? Who would tie our cravats or part our back hair? In fact I don't believe we could get along without her, at all, at all—do you? She is a queen whose power is absolute. We are bound in captivity to her, and our slavery is so complete that we love to hug the chains that bind us; and when she punishes us, don't we like to kiss the hand that smites us? How beautifully does the poet thus describe the influence which she exerts over the rugged nature of man:

"O woman! in our hours of ease,
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please,
But seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

(Applause—cheers, waving of handkerchiefs—hi! hi! hi! and several "tigers.")

Here the orator sank exhausted to the floor. Horror-stricken, we rushed to him—we shouldered his limp form and bore him to his hotel, where restoratives were applied. After consciousness had partly returned, we

Put him in his little bed,
And smoothed the pillow for his head;
With stifled moans and plaintive sighs,
With clasped hands and upturned eyes,
Thus did Sir James soliloquize:

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| <p>"Fair is my love, so fair, I shudder with the sense Of what a light the world would lose Could she go hence.</p> | <p>True is my love, so true, Her heart is mine alone, The music of its rhythmic beat Throb through my own.</p> |
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|---|---|
| <p>Sweet is my love, so sweet, The leaves that, fold on fold, Swathe up the odors of the rose, Less sweetness hold.</p> | <p>Dear is my love, so dear, If I but hear her name, My eyes with tears of rapture swim, My cheek is flame.</p> |
|---|---|

Spare her, Immortals, spare,
Till all our days are done;
Your heaven is full of angel forms,
Mine holds but one."

After having disposed of poor Sir James, we returned to the banquet, but as we entered the room a horrible sight met us. There sat Sir John W. Simons, of New York, looking the very counterpart of Sir John Falstaff, but for an expression of agonizing sorrow upon his usually placid countenance. Surrounded by empty plates, and bottles whose contents had departed from earthly vision, he was keeping watch over a pyramid of ice cream, a dish of lobster salad, a plate of charlotte russe, and other edibles, and feebly crying: "Off, I say be off, the great State of New York will not suffer her rights to be trampled upon—if the Grand Lodge of *Hamburg* interferes, I'll cut her up into sandwiches. I can't eat any more now, but these things are mine, and no 'foreign power' shall interfere." Poor John, although he has an appetite that a Mastodon might envy, and although his powers of imbibition would put to shame the healthiest old Bactrian camel that ever laid in a supply of liquid for a desert tramp; he had been overmatched this time. His weakness, "not his will," consented to stop. His *victual* energies were extinct, and all the powers of mastication had ceased their operation, and there the "miserable relic" of his former self sat in utter despair.

We took our seat sadly and sorrowfully, when a sound struck our ear which seemed somewhat familiar to us. Could it be? Yes, it was even so. Sir Joseph P. Hornor of Louisiana was speaking *again*. With frenzied eye and frantic gesture he was spouting away like a "right whale." We have often pitied "poor Robinson Crusoe" because he could not "hear the sweet music of speech," but no one can complain of that affliction when Hornor is in the neighborhood. On the slightest provocation, Joseph is ever ready to "rise to explain." Be it funeral or wedding, installation or institution, banquet or reception, the sweet tones of his persuasive tongue can be heard. His supply of wind is so inexhaustible that when at last

" Silence, like a poultic, comes,
To heal the blows of sound,"

we devoutly return thanks that all is over. Fortunately the guests began to depart, the lights were turned down, and thus ended Sir Joseph's harangue.

But of all the prodigious performances which took place in Baltimore during this week of miracles, the grand parade which occurred on Thursday, September 21st, was the most wonderful. The day was clear and just cool enough to make marching pleasant. The police regulations were perfect, so that the immense mass of humanity which packed the sidewalks, like a lot of sardines, did not in the least degree interfere with the parade. About five thousand Knights, all in full dress, marched through the principal streets of the city, with waving plumes and flowing banners, while the strains of music and the plaudits of the multitudes of spectators added to the glory of the grandest Masonic pageant that the world has ever seen.

Our Grand Commander was accompanied through the whole route by Sir Joseph P. Hornor, Past Grand Commander of Louisiana, who is also the representative of our Grand Commandery near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana.

It will not be considered egotistical in us to refer to the fact that to New Jersey was accorded the second place of honor for correctness and precision in marching, drill and evolution. We feel pride on this account, and considering that we were competing with many whose age and experience might well make us fear to enter the lists against them, we cannot find fault with the decision of the committee who made the decision.

Very much more could we say of the manifold pleasures which all who visited Baltimore were permitted to enjoy, but we must check our pen, for we have already far exceeded the limits which we had prescribed for ourself. The history of the Reporters' Convention—is it not written in the book of records of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, to be seen and read of all men!

Thus ended the eighteenth triennial session of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and Templar Masonry this day occupies a higher and stronger position than it has ever heretofore held.

CONCLUSION.

In making our first appearance as a Templar Reporter, we are constrained to regret that it should be in a report compiled in this style, which we do not believe to be the correct thing, and much prefer taking up our pamphlets, one at a time, and thus holding special communings with each of our friends; but a pressure of business, and of other Masonic labors of a similar character, and more especially on account of the depleted state of the Treasury of our Grand Commandery, we were compelled to adopt the present method; if it cannot give satisfaction, we can only hope that it will be considered better than no report at all, which is all we claim for it. Next year we can safely say that we shall do better, for we stay at home all summer and will not be wasting our time gadding about the country with Corson.

We are under many obligations to various of our fraters for courtesies extended to us during our trip northward last year, all of which we would gladly acknowledge in detail, but that being impossible we must be content with returning our heartfelt thanks to R. E. Sir Edward T. Schultz, Grand Captain General of Maryland, for our kind reception and comfortable quarters ; to R. E. Sir William W. Goodwin, Grand Commander of New Jersey, and his officers, for the care they personally took of us ; and for the generous hospitality with which we were again entertained by our friend Mrs. Thomas J. Corson, of Trenton.

Courteously submitted,

JOSEPH P. HORNOR,
WILLIAM R. WHITAKER.

Committee.

Sir George Baldey offered the following resolution, which was laid over until the next Annual Conclave.

Resolved, That Article 10, of the By-Laws of this Grand Body, which reads as follows : " Petitions for the Orders of Knighthood shall be received from no Companion who does not produce evidence of having been for six months a Royal Arch Mason " be, and the same is hereby repealed.

The Special Committee on the Grand Commander's Address submitted the following report, which was received, and the appendant resolution adopted :

NEW ORLEANS, February 16, 1872.

To the R. E. Grand Commander, and Sir Knights of Grand Commandery :

Your Committee to whom was referred that portion of the R. E. Grand Commander's Address, relating to Order No. 2, of the Grand Master, have the honor to report the following resolution :

Resolved, That in accordance with the edict of the Grand Encampment of the United States, an assessment of five cents for each member borne on the rolls, be collected by each Commandery, and the amount be paid to the Grand Recorder, on or before the first day of July, in each year.

T. A. BARTLETTE,
JNO. B ROBERTSON,
Z. M. PIKE.

Sir James B. Scot, offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved. That hereafter no Sir Knight be admitted to the Grand Commandery unless in full regulation uniform, Sir Knights of other jurisdictions excepted.

The Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, Sirs Z. M. Pike and J. H. Clarke, acting as tellers, with the following result :

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sir RICHARD LAMBERT..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander.</i> |
| Sir WILLIAM RITCHIE WHITAKER..... | <i>V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.</i> |
| Sir HUGH BREEN..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo.</i> |
| Sir JOSEPH HENRY DEGRANGE..... | <i>E. Grand Captain General.</i> |
| Sir J. C. CARPENTER..... | <i>E. Grand Prelate.</i> |
| Sir JOHN H. CLARKE..... | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden.</i> |
| Sir WILLIAM L. STANFORD..... | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden.</i> |
| Sir EMANUEL BLESSEY..... | <i>E. Grand Treasurer.</i> |
| Sir GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder.</i> |

The R. E. Grand Commander made the following appointments

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Sir GEORGE BALDEY..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer.</i> |
| Sir ZEBULON M. PIKE..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer.</i> |
| Sir THOMAS CRIPPS..... | <i>E. Grand Warder.</i> |
| Sir RAYMOND S. BURK..... | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards.</i> |

M. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, Grand Master of Knights Templar of the United States, with the assistance of R. E. Sir John A. Stevenson, then proceeded to and did install the above named officers (with the exception of Sirs J. H. DeGrange, G. C. G., elect, J. C. Carpenter, G. P., elect, and T. Cripps. G. W., elect, who were not present) into their respective offices, in *Due and Ample Form*.

The R. E. Grand Commander was requested to install the remaining Grand Officers as soon as convenient.

M. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows and R. E. Sir Samuel M. Todd, presented their credentials, the former as the Grand Representative of the Grand Commanderies of Wisconsin and Kansas, and the latter as the Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of California, near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, which were received, the Sir Knights welcomed as such, and received with Knightly honors.

On motion of R. E. Sir T. H. Bartlette, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies, and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Grand Commander, for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect, and that fifty copies of the proceedings be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Correspondence.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated to E. Sir Knight Grand Recorder, and five dollars to E. Sir Knight Grand Captain of the Guards, for services rendered.

The Grand Recorder donated his fee to the Grand Commandery, which was accepted, and, on motion of R. E. Sir J. A. Stevenson, the thanks of the Grand Commandery returned to the Grand Recorder.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed Sirs Joseph P. Hornor and Wm. R. Whitaker, Committee on Correspondence.

No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN AND KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next Annual Conclave, on Friday, Feb. 14th, A. D., 1873, A. O., 755.



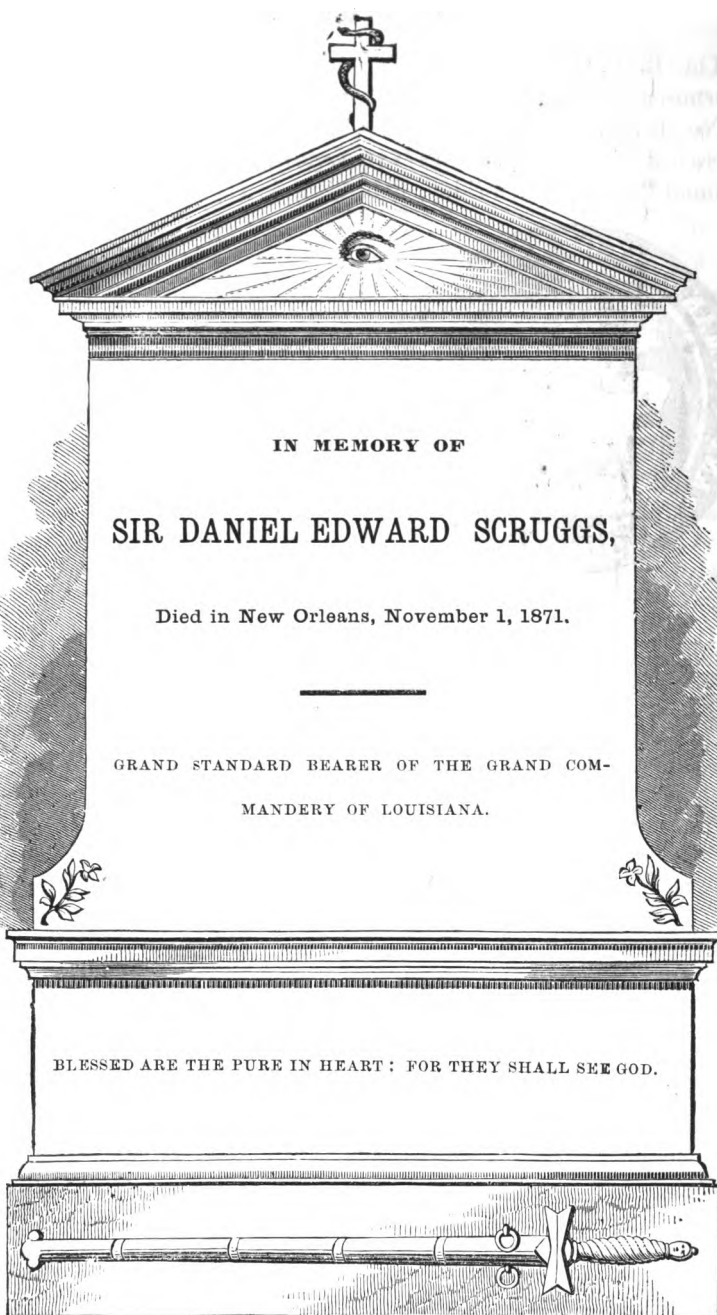
RICHARD LAMBERT,

Grand Commander.

ATTEST:

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.



In Memoriam.

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

Your Committee to whom was referred that portion of the address of the R. E. Grand Commander, relating to the death of our late Grand Standard Bearer, E. Sir Daniel E. Scruggs, respectfully submit the following :

A native of Virginia, Sir Daniel E. Scruggs received the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in Lavaca Lodge No. 36, Texas, in 1854 : a few months afterward he removed to New Orleans, and affiliated with Marion Lodge No. 68, Sept. 11, 1856 : from that date he became identified with Masonry in Louisiana, and as he advanced from one degree to another, his fervency and zeal were ever conspicuous in Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, as well as in the Bodies of the A. and A. Rite.

Of a liberal and generous disposition, he was a kind husband, an affectionate father, a good citizen, a courteous gentleman, and a gallant Knight. Generally beloved in the community, the esteem in which he was held by his brethren is attested by the many offices he held in all the Bodies of which he was a member, and in whatever position placed he faithfully performed his duty.

After a long and lingering illness, which was endured with Christian resignation, our beloved Companion expired on the 1st of November, 1871, at the early age of 38. Life, however, is measured by deeds, not years : having completed his pilgrimage on earth, he obeyed the summons of the Grim Warder, and we pray :

Requiem æternam dona ei, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat ei !

Amen and Amen !

JAMES B. SCOT,
G. SONTAG,
GEO. BALDEY.

ANNUAL RETURNS

OF

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

FOR THE YEAR 1871.

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Original Charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York. May 4th, A. D. 1816.
A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th,
A. D. 1844.

OFFICERS FOR 1872.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sir S Hopkins, Jr.....E C. | Sir Hugh Breen.....Treasurer. |
| " I W Homan .....G. | " M A Calongne.....Recorder. |
| " John A Peel.....C G. | " G J Pinckard.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " H C Duncan.....Prelate. | " J Olle.....Sword Bearer. |
| " G L Hall .....Sen. Warden. | " S B Haggart.....Warder. |
| " Berry Russell.....Jun. Warden. | " John Kellett.....Sent. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| T A Bartlette, | M A Calongne, | F W Delsedernier, |
| Hugh Breen, | James Stafford, | Richard Lambert, & c. |
| John G Fleming. | | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Allabaugh, J R | Cassidy, Henry | Hall, S R | Redon, O M |
| Annan, A | Chandler, J Benj | Ivens, E M | Riverra, P Nap |
| Allston, Sam | Cleveland, W F | Isaacson, A H | Rooney, John |
| Barnes, J L | Czarnowski, Oscar | Jones, F A | Rice, Felix |
| Benedict, A W | Coyle, W G | Johnson, Geo | Richards, J D |
| Beck, Thos J | Crawford, J D | Kells, Chas E | Soulé George |
| Bruns, H C | Custer, A B | Knapp, F H | Scott, John K |
| Barker, P A | Donella, O J | Keenan, Pat | Starr, William |
| Burden, Thomas | Daussat, J L | Lafon, René | Skardon, A W |
| Baker, John | Ellsworth, O | McCulloch, Wm | Stafford, I C |
| Barksdale, E J | Ewell, Wm M | McDuff, Wm | Stewart, David |
| Brown, H C | Furdeaux, Jas | Melloch, E | Sheehan, Thos |
| Buchanan, H | Fisher, J A G | Maguire, J W | Thomas, Charles |
| Carter, J H | Garrett, A C | Mullen, H J | Viosca J, Sr |
| Cox, William | Harvey, J H | Martin, Angel | Williams, Peter |
| Cage, D S | Heron, A C | Mayo, Claudius | Wolverton, N W |
| Constantini, Hon'y | Hillman, A | O'Meallie, H M | White, Jona C |
| Clark, John | Herwig, J L | Ochiglevich, J | Wells, W H |
| Clarke, Geo H | Herwig, P F | O'Dowd, J | Young, John, Jr |
| Cain, L P | Hart, L | Panzer, S H | Zeigler, Joseph |
| Carraher, Pat | Hinton, Isaac T | | Total, 99. |

Orders Conferred—H C Duncan, O M Redon, W G Coyle, A Annan, G L Hall, G J Pinckard, A B Custer, H M O'Meallie, H C Bruns, W F Cleveland, Sam Allston, Thos J Beck, I C Stafford, S B Haggart, J S Barnes.

Affiliated—P A Barker.

Died—Theophile Ferranti.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 25th, A. D. 1851, A. O. 733.

OFFICERS FOR 1872.

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Sir Joseph H DeGrange.....E C. | Sir Emanuel Blessey.....Treasurer. |
| " Henry P Buckley.....G. | " Gustavus Sontag.....Recorder. |
| " Rufus L Bruce .....C G. | " H Williams.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " Zeb M Pike.....Prelate. | " H Pierson.....Sword Bearer. |
| " Robert Strong.....Sen. Warden. | " George Selby.....Warder. |
| " Thos F Patton.....Jun. Warden. | " R S Burk (not a member)...Sent. |
| Sirs H Hamburger, George Bull, A Eyrich,.....Guards. | |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| W W Johnson, | John B Robertson, | Henry R Swasey, P. G. C. |
| Samuel M Todd, P. G. C., | James B Scot, P. D. G. C. | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Addison, Ashford | Francis, M W | McGuffy, H | Santini, Joseph |
| Amesbury, J O | Foote, Alexis S | Mason, W J | Stevenson, J A |
| Bockius, Jacob M | FitzGerald, W E | Maybin, William | Sheldon, A D |
| Bell, Wm Robert | Fellowes, E T | Mandal, Peter C | Small, A B |
| Batchelor, Jas C | Gale, James | McWilliams, J G | Thayer, F N |
| Bothick, Thos W | Gordy, John C | Macon, Thos L | Trippett, R S |
| Barnett, Edward | Glennon, Robert | Norris, J W | Turck, J R |
| Betterton, W G | Garner, George G | Newton, C W | Todd, James |
| Beattie, Wm | Hasam, Thomas | O'Beirne, W J | VanHorn, T D |
| Bennett, Phillip | Hawkins, John | Pike, Wm S | Whann, Wm, Jr |
| Buckner, Simon B | Hollyland F | Perkins, Wm M | Weber, William |
| Boning, George | Jones, John W | Pearce, J W | Wang, Fred |
| Carter, Albert G | King, George H | Rhinehart, B F | Wrede, J W |
| Clarke, Joseph D | Kent, Amos | Ramelli, D S | Ward, John |
| Craig, Emmet D | Lane, Lafayette N | Race, George W | Webster, L J |
| Chase, C H | Lunn, Thomas | Robson, William | Wynne, C E |
| Carroll, Timothy | McNeil, Alexander | Richardson, J G | Wilner, J C |
| Darden, R G | Mitchell, D F | Smith, John C | Yorke, E A |
| Dunn, James B | Murdock, L T | Schilling, H T | |
| Fuller, Charles A | Manning, W H | | |
| | | | Total, 96. |

Orders Conferred—M W Francis, E T Fellowes, W J O'Beirne, George Bull, A Eyrich, J G Richardson, R S Trippett.

Died—D E Scruggs, J A Douglass, J T Monroe.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, September 4th, A. D. 1862,
A. O. 744.

OFFICERS FOR 1872.

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Sir George Baldey..... | E C. | Sir S A Stockdale..... | Treasurer |
| " John H Clarke..... | G. | " S B Wright..... | Recorder. |
| " N Burbank | C G. | " W P Stewart..... | Stan. Bearer. |
| " W S Benedict..... | Prelate. | " Geo Staples..... | Sword Bearer. |
| " J W Madden..... | Sen. Warden. | " M Woods..... | Warder. |
| " J B D Baxter..... | Jun. Warden. | " Raymond S Burk..... | Sentinel. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| J Q A Fellows, P. G. C., | Joseph P Hornor, P. G. C., | Thomas Cripps, |
| W C Driver, | William R Whittaker, D. G. C. | Geo Baldey. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Andrews, E B | Doane, Harmon | Leacock, W T | Rodgers, T J |
| Abbott, Geo H | Dunlap, J G | Lennon, Jos C | Rice, Chas S |
| At Lee ,W Y | Estlin, Charles T | Murphy, Wm E | Reid, Edw |
| Adams, E E | Fromeyer, W H | Montgomery, D | Rusha, E M |
| Baldwin, Albert | Friend, Thomas | Moon, W H | Remick, F C |
| Blake, George A | Gardner, L H | Miller, Nick | Stanford, W L |
| Bullitt, Cuthbert | Gilman, S H | McGinnis, J J | Shaw, Alfred |
| Billings, A E | Girard, M E | Morrison, D C | Seymour, Sam'l J |
| Bovard, Rob't D | Hays, H T | Munroe, S F | Sizer, Geo W |
| Chamberlain, Geo | Hall, G Alfred | Nash, Charles T | Scott, Chas A |
| Crawford, Levy S | Hughes, A de B | Pilcher, Mason | Slaight, H L |
| Campbell, Benj | Harris, J L | Pierce, H D | Twitchell, H T |
| Carroll, R W W | Hildreth, D M | Parsons, J P | Tisdale, Eugene |
| Collins John F | Hunt, C S | Parle, A | Watson, Robert |
| Cosbey, John J | Johnson, W A | Potter, Jotham | Walsh, P P |
| Curry, E S | James, W G | Robinson, Wm M | |
| Cooper, William | Keys, Nelson, | Robinson, NT N | Total, 83. |

Orders Conferred—W M Robinson, Geo Staples, J B D Baxter, J P Parsons,
E E Adams, D Montgomery, John Ray, W H Moon, E S Curry, T J Rodgers.

Affiliated—J L Harris.

Died—John Ray, F W Perkins, W S Tomlin.

RECAPITULATION.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Commanderies | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Membership | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 278 |
| Knighted | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 30 |
| Affiliated | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Died | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |

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List of Elective Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders, Of the State of Louisiana.

| YEAR. | R. E. G. COMMANDER. | V. E. D. G. COMMANDER. | E. G. GENERALISSIMO. | E. GRAND. CAPT. GENERAL. | E. G. PRELATE. | E. GRAND TREASURER. | E. GRAND. RECORDER. |
|-------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1864 | Hy. Rufus Swasey | J. Q. A. Fellows. | Fulgence Ricau*. | Willis P. Coleman* | John H. Holland* | Hosea Edwards*. | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1865 | J. Q. A. Fellows. | S. M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau*. | Willis P. Coleman* | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | Joseph P. Hornor. |
| 1866 | Sam'l M. Todd... | Fulgence Ricau*. | Joseph P. Hornor | M. A. Calongne..... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1867 | Sam'l M. Todd... | Fulgence Ricau*. | Joseph P. Hornor | Wm. R. Whitaker.. | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1868 | Fulgence Ricau*. | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson... | Wm. R. Whitaker.. | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | Alfred E. Billings. |
| 1869 | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson... | W. R. Whitaker.. | M. A. Calongne..... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1870 | Joseph P. Hornor | James B. Scott..... | T. A. Bartlette... | Jas. E. McBeth*... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1871 | Jno. A. Stevenson | Richard Laubert | W. R. Whitaker.. | Hugh Breen..... | H. C. Duncan..... | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1872 | Richard Lambert | W. R. Whitaker.. | Hugh Breen..... | Jos. H. DeGrange... | J. C. Carpenter... | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |

*Dead:

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

*Of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, near other Grand Com-
manderies*

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, near the Grand Commandery of | Missouri. |
| Sir James H. Hopkins, | “ “ Pennsylvania. |
| Sir A. D. Sears, | “ “ Tennessee. |
| Sir A. E. Ames, | “ “ Minnesota. |
| Sir Robert L. Roddy, | “ “ Georgia. |
| Sir Edward A. Guilbert, | “ “ Iowa. |
| Sir Thomas J. Corson, | “ “ New Jersey. |
| Sir Josiah H. Drummond, | “ “ Maine. |
| Sir William C. Munger, | “ “ Kentucky. |
| Sir William W. Baker, | “ “ Massachusetts. |
| Sir Frank R. Jarvis, | “ “ Alabama. |
| Sir Ezra S. Barnum, | “ “ New York. |
| Sir Isaac S. Titus, | “ “ California. |



GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

*Of other Grand Commanderies, near the Grand Commandery of
Louisiana.*

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Sir Samuel M. Todd..... | { New York, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Georgia, California. |
| Sir Joseph P. Hornor..... | { Missouri, New Jersey. |
| Sir J. Q. A. Fellows..... | { Vermont, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas. |
| Sir James B. Scot..... | Maine. |
| Sir James C. Batchelor..... | Tennessee. |

REGISTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

| STATE. | DATE OF ORGANIZATION. | GRAND COMMANDER. | RESIDENCE. | GRAND RECORDER. | RESIDENCE. |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| ALABAMA..... | December 1, 1861. | Sir A J Walker. | Montgomery..... | Sir Daniel Sayre. | Montgomery..... |
| CALIFORNIA..... | August 10, 1878. | Sir Frederick F. Barry. | Placerville..... | Sir Charles L. Wiggin. | San Francisco..... |
| CONNECTICUT..... | September 1, 1827. | Sir W W Storey. | Norwalk..... | Sir John W. Steadman. | Norwich..... |
| GEORGIA..... | April —, 1810. | Sir George S. O'Leary. | Marion..... | Sir C R Armstrong. | Macon..... |
| ILLINOIS..... | October 27, 1837. | Sir Willy M. Egan. | Chicago..... | Sir James H. Miles. | Chicago..... |
| INDIANA..... | May 16, 1814. | Sir Edridge G. Hamilton. | La Porte..... | Sir Jno M. Bramwell. | Indianapolis..... |
| IOWA..... | June 6, 1864. | Sir Pitkin C. Wright. | De Witt..... | Sir W B Langridge. | Muscatine..... |
| KANSAS..... | December 24, 1868. | Sir Jno H. Brown. | Leavenworth..... | Sir Erasmus T. Carr. | Leavenworth..... |
| KENTUCKY..... | October 3, 1847. | Sir M H Smith. | Maysville..... | Sir Wm C Munger. | Franklin..... |
| Louisiana..... | February 12, 1864. | Sir Richard Lambert. | New Orleans..... | Sir Gustavus Sontak. | New Orleans..... |
| MAINE..... | May 3, 1852. | Sir Henry H. Dickey. | Lewiston..... | Sir Ira Hervey. | Portland..... |
| MASACHUSETTS & Rhode Island. | May 12, 1865. | Sir Nicholas Van Slyck. | Providence, R. I. | Sir Alf F. Chapman. | Boston..... |
| MARYLAND..... | January 23, 1871. | Sir Charles H. Mann. | Towson town..... | Sir Frank J. Kugler. | Baltimore..... |
| MICHIGAN..... | January 13, 1837. | Sir Irwin M. Smith. | East Saginaw..... | Sir Wm P. Innis. | Grand Rapids..... |
| MINNESOTA..... | October 23, 1865. | Sir George L. Otis. | St. Paul..... | Sir George A. Savory. | Minneapolis..... |
| MISSISSIPPI..... | January 21, 1837. | Sir E. George Delap. | Plate City..... | Sir J. L. Power. | St. Louis..... |
| MISSOURI..... | May 22, 1860. | Sir Francis M. Tufts. | Nashua..... | Sir John A. Harris. | Concord..... |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE..... | June 12, 1860. | Sir Wm Barrett. | Camden..... | Sir Thomas J. Corson. | New York..... |
| NEW JERSEY..... | February 14, 1860. | Sir Robert N. Brown. | Buffalo..... | Sir Robert W. Macoy. | New York..... |
| NEW YORK..... | June 18, 1814. | Sir Harry Porter Deuel. | Onahua..... | Sir Robert W. Furnas. | Brownville..... |
| NEBRASKA..... | December 28, 1871. | Sir Enoch T. Carson. | Cincinnati..... | Sir James Nesbitt. | Providence..... |
| OHIO..... | October 24, 1843. | Sir Chas M. Howell. | Lancaster..... | Sir Chas E. Meyer. | Philadelphia..... |
| PENNSYLVANIA..... | April 14, 1854. | Sir George S. Blackie. | Nashville..... | Sir John Frizzell. | Nashville..... |
| TENNESSEE..... | October 12, 1859. | Sir A S. Richardson. | Houston..... | Sir Robert Brewster. | Houston..... |
| TEXAS..... | January 19, 1855. | Sir Russell S. Tat. | Burlington..... | Sir W H S. Whitcomb. | Richmond..... |
| VERMONT..... | June 17, 1834. | Sir John R. McDaniel. | Lynchburg..... | Sir John Dove. | Birmingham..... |
| VIRGINIA..... | November 27, 1827. | Sir A V H Carpenter. | Milwaukee..... | Sir Wm T. Palmer. | Milwaukee..... |
| WISCONSIN..... | October 29, 1859. | | | | |

Officers of Grand Commandery.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| SIR RICHARD LAMBERT..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander.</i> |
| SIR WM. R. WHITAKER..... | <i>V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.</i> |
| SIR HUGH BREEN..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo.</i> |
| SIR JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE..... | <i>E. Grand Captain General.</i> |
| SIR J. C. CARPENTER..... | <i>E. Grand Prelate.</i> |
| SIR JOHN H. CLARKE..... | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden.</i> |
| SIR WM. L. STANFORD..... | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden.</i> |
| SIR EMANUEL BLESSEY..... | <i>E. Grand Treasurer.</i> |
| SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder.</i> |
| SIR GEORGE BALDEY..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer.</i> |
| SIR ZEBULON M. PIKE..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer.</i> |
| SIR THOMAS CRIPPS..... | <i>E. Grand Warder.</i> |
| SIR RAYMOND S. BURK..... | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards.</i> |

Annual Grand Conclave of 1872.

The next Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, will be held in Grand Lodge, Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Friday, February 14th, 1873, A. O. 755.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Sirs J. P. HORNOB and Wm. B. WHITAKER.

TO GRAND RECORDERS.

I respectfully request the Grand Recorders of the various Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar, to transmit to me, by separate mails, duplicate copies of their Proceedings, and the favor shall be reciprocated with due courtesy.

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

Lock Box 321, Post Office, New Orleans.

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.



Grand Commandery

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Louisiana

1873.

Freemasons. Louisiana. Knights Templar
Grand Commandery.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar,

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA,

AT ITS TENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE,

New Orleans, February 14th, A. D. 1873, A. O. 755.

SIR JOSEPH HENRY DEGRANGE, - - - R. E. GRAND COMMANDER.

SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG, - - - - - E. GRAND RECORDER.



NEW ORLEANS :

A. W. HYATT, PRINT, 38 CAMP STREET.

1873.

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TENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar,

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

THE R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at its Sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, City of New Orleans, on Friday, February 14th, A. D. 1873, A. O. 755, at 12 o'clock, m., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR RICHARD LAMBERT.....R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. /
 " WM. R. WHITAKER.....V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER.
 " HUGH BREEN.....E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO.
 " JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE.....E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL.
 " JOHN C. CARPENTER.....E. GRAND PRELATE.
 " JOHN H. CLARKE.....E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.
 " WM. L. STANFORD.....E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.
 " EMANUEL BLESSEY.....E. GRAND TREASURER.
 " GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....E. GRAND RECORDER.
 " GEORGE BALDEY.....E. GRAND STANDARD BEAREE.
 " ZEB. M. PIKE.....E. GRAND SWORD BEARER.
 " EUGENE TISDALE.....as E. GRAND WARDER.
 " RAYMOND S. BURK.....E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR HENRY R. SWASEY.....P. R. E. Grand Commander.
 " SAMUEL M. TODD....." " "
 " JOSEPH P. HORNOR....." " "
 " JOHN A. STEVENSON....." " "
 " JAMES B. SCOT.....P. V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.
 " THERON A. BARTLETTE.....P. E. G. Generalissimo,
 " M. A. CALONGNE.....P. E. G. Captain General.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODD.....Pennsylvania, New York,
Kentucky, Georgia and California.
SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR.....Missouri, New Jersey and
Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.
SIR JAMES C. BATCHELOR.....Tennessee and Alabama.
" JAMES B. SCOTMaine.
SIR JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE.....Mississippi.
" HENRY R. SWASEY.....Nebraska.
" RICHARD LAMBERT.....Indiana.
" GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....Illinois.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM,

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir
Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns:

SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

" GEO. BALDEY, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

" G. SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns submitted the fol-
lowing report, which was read and adopted:

NEW ORLEANS, February 14th, 1878.

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Credentials courteously report the following Command-
eries entitled to representation, and the following Sir Knights entitled to seats
in the Grand Commandery, as legal Representatives:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

I. W. Homan, E. C.; J. A. Peel, G.; J. Kellett, C. G.;

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Joseph H. DeGrange, E. C.; (R. Strong, proxy); R. L. Bruce, G.;

A. B. Small, C. G. (T. F. Patton, proxy.)

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

John H. Clark, E. C.; N. Burbank, G.; J. W. Madden, C. G.

Courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,

J. P. HORNOR,

G. BALDEY,

Committee.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were
found represented, viz:

Indivisible Friends No. 1; Jacques de Molay No. 2; Orleans No. 3; Girard, U. D.

The R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Richard Lambert, then delivered the following

ADDRESS:

Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana:

It is with much pleasure that I welcome you, in this, our Tenth Annual Conclave.

It affords me the highest gratification to announce that the ranks of this Grand Body have not been diminished, during the past Masonic year by removals or death; while our columns have not been strengthened, as much as we could wish by the accession of recruits, the tried and faithful, who, in years gone by, have fought under our banners, remain to valiantly and courteously uphold the value of the cause represented by Templar Masonry. "Well tried, true and trusty," we can ill afford to lose sight of one of those friendly faces, the grasp of any of those cordial hands, the friendly voices, which convey assurance of Knightly confidence and fidelity.

There are, however, reasons for increased confidence in the future of our beloved Orders in this State. Measures have been taken, and I believe wisely, for the establishment of a new Commandery in this jurisdiction. On the 30th of May last, I concluded, after much deliberation, to issue my dispensation for an emergent Commandery, to be held at Opelousas, St. Landry Parish, La., by Sirs C. Mayo and J. D. Richard, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, J. L. Morris, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2, and M. E. Girard, of Orleans Commandery No. 3, empowering them to confer the Orders upon five worthy companions of the Royal Arch, it being understood that the result of this action on my part, would be an application for a dispensation for a new Commandery at Opelousas.

I took this step only after I had satisfied myself that there was sufficient material in the section of country of which Opelousas is practically the centre to make a new Commandery there a really useful body.

I further entertain the belief that the spread and proper support of our Orders in Louisiana depend upon their encouragement in the country parishes.

I issued my dispensation on the 17th October, 1872, after due application, and upon the recommendation of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, to nine Sir Knights of our Orders, to open a Commandery at Opelousas, under the name of Girard Commandery, U. D.; and with the following officers: M. E. Girard, E. Commander; C. Mayo, Generallissimo; J. L. Morris, Captain General. The progress made by those who have taken charge of this new Asylum has been of a character to entitle them to our warm regard and to induce me to earnestly recommend the granting to them of a permanent charter.

Two occasions have been presented when I granted dispensations, waiving the usual time after reception of petitions before ballotting upon them; in each instance the reasons for this exercise of prerogative were sufficient, and the favor was willingly extended.

Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2 received permission on the 24th of May, 1872, to confer the Orders on Companion J. L. Morris, of Opelousas, without waiting for the lapse of four weeks from the reception of his petition.

On the 8d day of July, 1872, a like authority was conferred on Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, in the case of Companion R. G. Sterling, of Bayou Sara.

The distance of the residence of these Companions from the city was a sufficient reason for the course taken. Both the Companions were well known in the Fraternity.

The authority vested in a Grand Commander is placed in his hands for good purposes, and it is as improper to refuse to exercise it on due occasion as it would be to use it recklessly. I have not been called on during the past year to issue a dispensation to decrease the interval of time between the Chapter and the Commandery.

On the 15th of July, 1872, I issued an edict, copy of which is hereto appended, instructing our Subordinate Commanderies to collect an assessment of five cents for each of their members, in accordance with the edict of the Grand Encampment of the United States. The amount of this assessment was promptly paid and forwarded to the V. E. Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment.

It became my melancholy duty to assemble a Special Conclave of the Grand Commandery on the 14th of December, 1872, at Grand Lodge Hall, to perform the service of escorting the remains of our lamented frater, Sir E. H. Caldwell, of Mobile, Ala., through New Orleans, on their way to their last resting place.

In compliance with the terms of a courteous invitation from a Committee appointed by the three Commanderies located at New Orleans, I called a special conclave of the Grand Commandery to meet in this city on the 21st of December last, for the purpose of proceeding to the installation of the officers of those bodies. The occasion will long be remembered with pleasure by the Knights whose privilege it was to be in attendance at the Grand Lodge Hall, and subsequently at the banquet.

M. E. Grand Master, J. Q. A. Fellows, was invited by me to perform the installation ceremonies, and did so with the assistance of officers of the Grand Commandery.

During the past year I have made the following appointments of Representatives of this Grand Body, near other Grand Commanderies.

Sir John M. Price, near the Grand Commandery of Kansas.

Sir L. M. Oppenheimer, near the Grand Commandery of Texas.

Sir Charles W. Seymour, near the Grand Commandery of Nebraska.

Sir E. George De Lap, near the Grand Commandery of Mississippi.

Sir E. D. Palmer, near the Grand Commandery of Indiana.

Sir Ellory I. Garfield, near the Grand Commandery of Michigan.

I have been notified of the following appointments of Representatives of other Grand Commanderies near this Grand Body.

Sir H. R. Swasey, Representative of Grand Commandery of Nebraska.

Sir Jos. P. Hornor, Representative of Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Sir Jos. H. DeGrange, Representative of Grand Com. of Mississippi.

Sir J. C. Batchelor, Representative of Grand Commandery of Alabama.

Sir Richard Lambert, Representative of Grand Commandery of Indiana.

Sir Gustavus Sontag, Representative of Grand Commandery of Illinois.

Their credentials will be presented at this Conclave, and I hope they will be duly recognized and received.

In view of the fact that the Grand Encampment of the United States, will hold its next triennial Conclave in this city, in December, 1874, and of our lamentable deficiency in matters of costume and drill in this jurisdiction, I beg the attention of the members of this body, and especially of the officers of the subordinate bodies, to the importance of earnest and immediate work toward improvement and reform. We have nothing like proper drill enforced in either of our Commanderies. No one of them shows an assembly of Knights properly or decently uniformed. Were we called on to-day to escort the Grand Encampment of the United States from the levee or a railway depot to a hotel, the picture is too painful for contemplation, and I will spare your feelings. We are all agreed that something must be done in this important matter; but we had the same opinion twelve months ago. I suggest that arrangements be at once entered upon between the three city Commanderies providing for regular and frequent meetings for drill, under the command of officers to be selected for the year, and that the several Commanderies take into consideration, the propriety of enforcing a stringent rule upon the subject of uniform.

The only unfinished business, laid over from our last Annual Conclave, is the proposed repeal of Article 10 of the By-Laws, requiring a "probationary" period of six months between the Chapter Degrees and the Orders of Knighthood.

My official acts have been very few, and necessarily so. I am glad to say that Templar Masonry continues to hold its own among us, and to exact a wide-spread influence for good. There is room for great improvement in the working of our bodies, but we are fortunate in the material we have to work with. I have from time to time visited our several Asylums, and have invariably been received with the courtesy and hospitality characteristic of our chivalrous and generous Orders. In laying aside my command, I have to tender my thanks to the Knights of this jurisdiction for their unvarying kindness and hearty support in what I have tried to do for our institutions.

Sir Knight Sam'l M. Todd moved that the address be referred to a Special Committee of three for distribution, which was adopted; and Sirs Sam'l M. Todd, John A. Stevenson and Wm. R. Whitaker, were appointed on said Committee.

The Grand Treasurer submitted the following report, which was received and the vouchers ordered to be cancelled :

Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana,

In acc't with E. Blessey, Grand Treasurer :

1872.

CR.

February 17—By balance due for last account..... \$ 19 17

1873.

February 14—By cash received from G. Sontag, Grand Recorder..... 485 00

\$504 17

DR.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| To cash paid order No. 36—R. S. Burk..... | 5 00 |
| “ “ “ “ 37—G. Sontag..... | 7 50 |
| “ “ “ “ 38—N. O. Picayune..... | 6 00 |
| “ “ “ “ 39—G. I. Pinckard..... | 4 00 |
| “ “ “ “ 40—N. O. Picayune..... | 5 10 |
| “ “ “ “ 41—G. Sontag..... | 4 00 |
| “ “ “ “ 42—A. W. Hyatt..... | 50 00 |
| “ “ “ “ 43—A. W. Hyatt..... | 77 00 |
| “ “ “ “ 44—I. T. Hinton..... | 8 00 |
| “ “ “ “ 45—N. O. Times..... | 12 40—\$179 00 |

1873.

Balance due..... \$325 17

February 17—By balance due \$325 17

Respectfully submitted,

EMANUEL BLESSEY,

Grand Treasurer,

New Orleans, February 17, 1873.

The Grand Recorder made the following report, which was received and ordered to be spread on the minutes :

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 14th, 1873.

To the Grand Commandery of K. T. of the State of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS—In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Commandery, I present for your consideration the transactions of my office during the past year.

As is customary, 500 copies of the Proceedings were printed, and the usual number sent to the subordinate Commanderies, to sister Grand Commanderies, and to Masonic periodicals.

On the 15th of July last, in obedience to the orders of the R. E. Grand Commander, I collected from the subordinate Commanderies five cents for each member borne on their rolls on the 31st of December, 1871, for dues to the Grand Encampment of the United States.

On the 16th of September, I received from the R. E. Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of the United States, fifteen copies of the Proceedings of the triennial session of said Grand Body, held on the 19th September, 1872, at Baltimore, Md., which were distributed in accordance with the instructions of the Grand Encampment.

In October last, I received a letter from R. E. Sir T. S. Parvin, Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of the United States, requesting payment of dues for the year ending on the 30th of June, 1871. I was under the impression that said dues were only to commence on the 1st July, 1872. I left the matter lay over for your decision.

All the chartered Commanderies have made correct returns and paid their dues.

Girard Commandery, U. D., has made returns, paid dues, returned the dispensation, sent a transcript of its minutes and a copy of its by-laws and petition for a charter.

Herewith you have my account current for your approval :

G. Sontag, Grand Recorder, in account with the Grand Commandery :

1872.

| | | |
|--|------|---------|
| July 18—To Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1..... | 4 95 | |
| " Jacques de Molay No. 2..... | 4 75 | |
| " Orleans No 3..... | 4 15 | \$13 85 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------|
| July 26—By Grand Encampment U. S..... | | \$13 85 |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------|

| | | |
|--|--------|--|
| Oct. 15—To Girard Commandery U. D..... | 50 00 | |
| " 30— " " " " | 250 00 | |

1873.

| | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| Jan. 1—To Jacques de Molay No. 2..... | 80 00 | |
| " 14— " Orleans No. 3 | 55 00 | |
| " 31— " Girard Commandery U. D..... | 30 00 | |
| Feb. 5— " Indivisible Friends No. 1..... | 20 00 | \$485 00 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------|
| Feb. 14—By Grand Treasurer..... | | \$485 00 |
|---------------------------------|--|----------|

Courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,

G. Recorder.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, through its chairman, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, submitted the following report, which was ordered to be published with the proceedings :

NEW ORLEANS, February 14th, 1873.

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS—Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence have received the transactions of the Grand Commanderies of the following named States :

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------|
| ALABAMA..... | 1872. | MINNESOTA | 1872. |
| ARKANSAS | 1872. | MISSISSIPPI | 1872. |
| CALIFORNIA | 1872. | MISSOURI | 1872. |
| CONNECTICUT..... | 1872. | NEBRASKA..... | 1872. |
| GEORGIA | 1872. | NEW HAMPSHIRE..... | 1871. |
| ILLINOIS | 1871. | NEW JERSEY..... | 1872. |
| INDIANA | 1872. | NEW YORK..... | 1871, 1872. |
| IOWA..... | 1872. | OHIO..... | 1872. |
| KENTUCKY | 1872. | PENNSYLVANIA | 1872. |
| MAINE..... | 1872. | TENNESSEE | 1872. |
| MARYLAND..... | 1872. | VERMONT | 1872. |
| MASSACHUSETTS | 1871. | VIRGINIA | 1871. |
| MICHIGAN | 1872. | WISCONSIN | 1872. |

In all twenty-seven volumes.

ALABAMA.

The twelfth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Alabama, was held at Marion, February 5th, 1872. R. E. A. J. Walker, Grand Commander, being unavoidably absent, sent his address, and the Grand Commandery was opened by Sir Joseph H. Johnson, Deputy Grand Commander.

We extract the following decisions from the address :

R. Em. P. Grand Commander Richard F. Knott, at my instance, consulted by letter the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, as to the legality of my retaining the office of Eminent Commander of Montgomery Commandery No. 4, after my induction into the office of R. Em. Grand Commander of the State. The reply as communicated to me was, in substance, that he had considered the two offices incompatible, but in consequence of the several instances in which there had been a simultaneous incumbency of the two offices, he yielded to the precedents. I deferred to the opinion of others as to the propriety of my retaining the office of Eminent Commander and Grand Commander at the same time. I am, therefore, Grand Commander, and at the same time Eminent Commander of Montgomery No. 4. I was thus placed in such a relation to Montgomery Commandery No. 4 as to render it indelicate, if not improper, for me to report as to its condition. I, therefore, deputed R. Em. P. Grand Commander Richard F. Knott to visit Montgomery Commandery No. 4, and he has done so, and will report the result of his inspection and review.

1. That the Eminent Commander of a Commandery of Knights Templar, having been elected and installed, cannot resign.

2. That a Generalissimo or Captain General may be tried for unknighly conduct before the Commandery of which he may be a member, and that the mode of proceeding is analagous to that prescribed in the Masonic Code.

He also says :

We are like our ancient founders—a brotherhood. We are bound together by like ties to those which common purposes, common sentiments, common duties, and common dangers, fasten upon men united in a great military and benevolent enterprise, to be accomplished by self-sacrifice, devoted charity and deeds of valor. As soldiers stand shoulder to shoulder, so should Knights Templar stand shoulder to shoulder, and co-operate in their great moral warfare

with social evil. Each should be, in the use of lawful instrumentalities, the guardian of the life and reputation of the other. While they should be reciprocal mentors and counselors, their intercourse should be characterized by the genuine courtesy of knighthood, for which our founders were so eminent.

The proceedings are mainly of local interest. Jewels were voted to the Grand Commander and to Past Grand Commander Knott.

It was decided that expulsion from a Lodge or Chapter, necessarily operated as such, as to the privileges of Knighthood; that a suspension for non-payment of dues does not have that effect. This subject is discussed in many of the proceedings which we have under review, and there seems to be some difference of opinion as to the correctness of the latter part of the ruling. Our idea is, that if the suspension for non-payment of dues was had after charges duly preferred and regularly tried, it should operate as a deprivation of the privileges of Knighthood, but not otherwise.

A very beautiful oration was delivered by Sir Knight Wm. P. Chilton.

Sir Joseph H. Johnson was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Daniel Sayre re-elected Grand Recorder.

ARKANSAS.

On the 26th of March, 1872, by authority from the Grand Master of the United States, a Convention of Knights Templar was held at Fort Smith, and the Grand Commandery of the State of Arkansas duly organized. Sir Luke E. Barber was elected Grand Commander, and Sir J. W. Rison, Grand Recorder. There were no other proceedings.

CALIFORNIA.

The fourteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of California was held at San Francisco, 12th April, 1872.

Sir Frederick F. Barss, Grand Commander, in his address, states a decision relative to the jurisdiction over a candidate who spent half of his time in one city and half in another, by which he adjudged it to belong to the Commandery of the place in which the candidate exercised the elective franchise.

The Report on Correspondence by Sir Charles Louis Wiggin, is an able summary of the proceedings of almost all of the Grand Commanderies. Our proceedings of 1871 are acknowledged and reviewed. In speaking of the refusal of the Grand Commandery of Michigan to adopt the Grand Representative system, he says :

We cannot agree with the Committee in their conclusions. The dissemination of information is not what is intended to be accomplished by the appointment of representatives ; that, as the Committee say, is done by the printed reports which are scattered broadcast over the land ; but it is the closer fraternal relations, necessarily established between the Grand Bodies by the interchange of courtesies, and by frequent correspondence between such representatives. And should any question of disagreement arise between Grand Commanderies, we believe that an amicable and satisfactory adjustment of the difficulty will be more speedily arrived at by the aid of such representatives, who are generally selected from among those whose Masonic knowledge, wisdom and experience have caused them to be regarded as mentors among their brethren.

In commenting upon a decision of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey, that a rejected candidate cannot apply to another Commandery without first obtaining the consent of the rejecting Commandery, he says :

We confess that with this decision we are "*bothered intirely*;" it is as clear as mud to us; even with the aid of one of Sir Knight Corson's microscopes we fail to discover the point. We presume that in New Jersey, as elsewhere, a certain time is prescribed, within which a rejected applicant may not apply to the same or any other Commandery. But if the Grand Commander means to say that after the constitutional time has elapsed, the Commandery which rejected him have any right of jurisdiction over him, we cannot agree with him. If another Commandery exists in the same town, we believe he has the right to apply to it without in any manner consulting or considering the Commandery which rejected him.

Microscopes or not, we certainly think that the Grand Commandery of New Jersey was right, and that any other law would have the effect of entirely nullifying the uses of the ballot box, and we wonder where so illustrious a Sir Knight found any authority for the principles which he enunciates.

Sir William Wilson Taylor was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Charles Louis Wiggin re-elected Grand Recorder.

CONNECTICUT.

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut was held at Hartford, 19th March, 1872. All the Grand Officers and the representatives of every Commandery in the State were present.

The Committee on the History of the Order in Connecticut make the following report :

That nothing additional to the report of last year has come to light. I am unable to further elucidate our history between 1828 and 1844, and am forced to the conclusion, (as expressed in the former report), that no meetings were held between 1828 and 1842.

No trace of the missing records has been discovered, and I know of no person to whom to apply for further information on the subject. With one exception, all of the Sir Knights mentioned as officers in 1827 and 1828 are dead, and that one is unable to give us any information.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir John W. Stedman, and briefly acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of the several Grand Commanderies, ours of 1872 being among the number.

Sir Sereno S. Thomas was elected Grand Commander, and Sir John W. Stedman re-elected Grand Recorder.

GEORGIA.

The eleventh Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Georgia was held at Americus, 22d May, 1872.

It was found necessary to promulgate the following edict, which we hope will be strictly enforced :

Ordered, That from and after this date, Sir Knights under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery for the State of Georgia, are hereby prohibited from exhibiting in bar rooms, gambling houses, or other improper places, any evidences of Templarism, such as diplomas, certificates of membership, or other

Templar documents, uniforms, jewels, or other Templar regalia, photographs, paintings, or drawings of persons in their character of Knights Templar.

Any Sir Knight violating this order shall be tried, and if found guilty, shall be suspended or expelled.

A copy of this order shall be served on every Sir Knight under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery for the State of Georgia.

Eminent Commanders of Subordinate Commanderies are charged with the enforcement of this order.

The Grand Commandery had a dress parade and review.

The following resolution was adopted; and, in view of the semi-military character of our order, we deem it one that is highly necessary, and might be well followed by all the Grand Commanderies.

Resolved, That the Subordinate Commanderies under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, be required to meet at least once a month, between the first day of October and the thirty-first day of March, in each year, for drill only, and that all Sir Knights, members thereof, be required to attend such drills, unless excused by the Eminent Commander, for good cause shown.

In order to more fully carry out the intention of the above resolution, and to furnish an incentive to the Sir Knights to perfect themselves in the drill, the following resolutions were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That a certificate of honor be presented to the Commandery of this jurisdiction who shall, at the ensuing Grand Conclave in 1878, exhibit the greatest proficiency in drill, according to the Tactics as already adopted; which certificate shall be held by the Commandery to which it shall be awarded until the succeeding Grand Conclave, when it shall be again contested for, and so on from year to year, it being always open for competition at each Annual Grand Conclave.

2. *Resolved*, That the Right Eminent Grand Commander is hereby empowered and requested to appoint three proficient military men, (not Knights Templar) as judges, whose award of said certificate of honor shall be final. Said judges to be appointed each year, two months before the assembly of the Grand Conclave, and furnished with a copy of the Tactics adopted by this Grand Commandery.

We are very glad to notice that E. Sir J. Emmett Blackshear was appointed orator for the next Grand Conclave, and we shall look forward with a great deal of interest for his oration.

The same Sir Knight presented, as usual, the Report on Foreign Correspondence. Not having received the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Conclave of Canada ourselves, we are glad to extract from Sir Knight Blackshear's report the following description of the costume adopted by our fraters in Canada:

Costume.—In addition to the Costume provided for by the Statutes of the Order, the following dress shall be strictly adhered to:

Red Velvet Cap, with Coif. The Cap four inches high, same width at top and bottom, with a round flat crown, and round red covered button on centre of crown. Coif the same color and material as cap, lined with white silk, and falling to the nape of the neck, and extending to the ears.

In front of the Cap, for Eminent Commanders, a Red Cross Patriarchal, in embroidery, on white velvet, circular ground—the white circle edged with gold cord; and for Knights Companions, a cross *patee* on the same ground but with silver cord—the whole diameter of the white circle, including the cord, to be two inches, and the cross to be kept at its nearest point of contact, one-eighth of an inch from the cord.

White neck cloth.

A Surcoat or Tunic habit with tight sleeves, of same color and material as the Cloak, close fitting to the body and having a full skirt extending to just above the knee, with the cross *patee* nine inches in diameter, of red velvet or silk, on the breast.

Black leather boots, full tops, reaching to the knees, to be worn over black trousers

Gilt spurs, with the cross *patee* rowels, and black leathers to buckle across the instep.

The following are his views relative to the relations between the Knightly Orders and the Degrees of the Royal and Select Masters, with which we fully concur :

The Orders of Knighthood are engrafted on what is known in Masonry as the York Rite ; which rite formerly consisted of, and, in our judgment, should ever have been confined to the three Symbolic Degrees, together with the Royal Arch. Certainly no well-informed Frater will contend that the Degrees of Royal and Select Master form any part of the York Rite. They formerly belonged to the Scottish Rite, were disseminated by the Inspectors of the Supreme Council of the 33°, who always required from those upon whom they were conferred a pledge of allegiance to the Supreme Council. After charters had been granted by the Supreme Council for the formation of Subordinate Councils, and these subordinates had formed themselves into State Grand Councils, they threw off their allegiance to the Supreme Council, and so they now stand an independent body. True, they require those who petition for the Degrees to have passed through the Chapter—the same applies to the Good Samaritan Degree, (that is to the male applicants), of which our Frater speaks—and we believe that, as Knights Templars, we have about as much use for one as the other. The truth is, if a full explanation is given of the Royal Arch Degree, there is nothing left in the Council that is worth having.

Our proceedings of 1871 are acknowledged and reviewed.

In noticing the adoption of the resolution of the Grand Commandery of Maine, prohibiting the use of spirituous liquors at Templar festivals, he adopts our views in the following language :

We are happy to say that the evil complained of has never manifested itself in this jurisdiction, and we hope that it never will—we mean drunkenness at a Templars' banquet. A banquet without wine, it seems to us, would be a very tame affair; nevertheless, if the privilege cannot be used without being abused, let it be abolished, but let the banquet be abolished also. We strongly advocate temperance, that is, MASONIC TEMPERANCE, but we are opposed to converting the Institution into a Temperance Society, in the modern acceptance of the term.

R. E. Sir Allen S. Cutts was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Charles R. Armstrong re-elected Grand Recorder.

ILLINOIS.

The fifteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Illinois, was held at Chicago, 24th October, 1871.

Sir John Mills Pearson, Grand Commander, in his address, thus notices the terrible affliction which had then just occurred in Chicago :

For a reason we may not know, and in a way the most appalling, we witness to-day, the result of as dire a calamity as ever befell any community. Lives have been lost, homes destroyed, business prostrated, the accumulations of years swept away ; and had we not been taught to believe in the existence of a Su-

preme Being, and in a life beyond this, and more, as Knights, to trust in the Great Redeemer of mankind, well might we sit down in despair and weep, that the labors of so many years are so suddenly destroyed.

But no! firm in that faith we have long since avouched, we believe that out of evil must come good; and, though we cannot now see the way, we are sure that He who created us, knows best how to dispose of us, and doeth all things well.

The duty of the hour is clear. Brotherly love and relief are among our cardinal virtues. "Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee, turn not thou away," are the words of the Master. Abler tongues than mine have told, and are telling the story. The journals of the day are full of the distressing details. Upon the hearts of some of you, it is graven as with a pen of iron.

I shall add no word to this. Surely, as I said, the poor ye have always with you. Remember the admonition of St. John the Evangelist: "Whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" Channels, through which your benevolence may find certain course, are already provided. Do your duty now, "*O mie fraters*," as ye would that men should do unto you.

We agree with him in the following remarks:

I notice that the Grand Encampment and several of the Grand Commanderies have a rule, that, during the election of officers, no visitors, or others than members, entitled to vote, are allowed to be present. I think the rule a good one, and although no occasion has ever arisen for such a rule among us, yet it might be well to thus guard the future.

Sir Harmon G. Keynolds was received and welcomed as the Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana. A resolution was adopted that all representatives of Foreign Grand bodies should have rank as Grand Captains General, while, at the same time, by another resolution, the Grand Commander was authorized to confer upon the representatives of the Grand Commandery of Illinois, the rank of Past Grand Generalissimo. We cannot see any good reason why such a difference was made.

The sum of one thousand dollars was placed in the hands of the Grand Commander for a relief fund for the benefit of Sir Knights made penniless by the late fire, and the same amount donated to Apollo Commandery No. 1, and five hundred dollars to St. Bernard Commandery No. 85, to assist them in fitting up new homes.

Sir James H. Miles presented a very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he notices our proceedings for 1871, and regrets the retirement of Sir Knight Scot from the chairmanship of our committee.

R. E. Sir Wiley M. Eagan was elected Grand Commander, and Sir James H. Miles was re-elected Grand Recorder.

INDIANA.

The eighteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, was held at Indianapolis, April 2d, 1872, Sir Elbridge G. Hamilton, Grand Commander.

In his address the Grand Commander says:

I call attention of this Grand Body to the propriety of so amending our laws as to require a specified time to elapse between conferring the Royal Arch degree and the Templar Orders.

Under our present regulations we may, and frequently do, take an initiate from the degree of Entered Apprentice to the Orders of Knight Templar and Malta within a period of six months.

This seems to be wrong; unjust to the candidate as well as ourselves. It tends greatly to cheapen all our degrees and orders in the minds of the recipients of them, as well as the "world without." Our fraters of nearly or quite all our neighboring jurisdictions require a probation of at least six months; some of them (Wisconsin) one year between the Royal Arch and Orders of the Temple, and if similar requirements are made by us, our initiates will have time to study and reflect upon the beautiful and sublime lessons taught in our symbolic and capitular degrees before we hasten to dub them Knights Templars.

It seems to me that our laws should be so amended as to require a probation of at least six months between the Royal Arch degree and Templar Orders, and that in all cases, except in the organization of new Commanderies, one full month should elapse between conferring the Order of Red Cross, and Knight Templar and Malta.

I recommend that this subject be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence for their consideration.

The Committee on Jurisprudence endorse these recommendations, and introduce an edict to that effect, and a motion was made to strike it out of the report, which was lost. Another part of the report was postponed until the next Grand Conclave. Another part was indefinitely postponed, and we cannot precisely tell the condition of the edict requiring the lapse of six months from the time of receiving the degree of Royal Arch before the orders of Knighthood could be conferred upon a candidate; but we saw from this action and from the very general commendation by all of the Grand Commanderies, that the regulation adopted by our Grand Commandery in 1867, was destined to become the law throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and we hope, at some future time, to see it incorporated into the Constitution of that body.

The Grand Commander includes in his address the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he professes to give a summary of the important legislative doings of the sister Grand Commanderies, and not to attempt what he is pleased to call "an elaborate critical and complimentary report of the sayings of our neighboring Foreign Correspondence Committees." We hope our fraters who labor to please the craft at large, much more than they do to indulge in commentaries pleasant only to themselves, will not feel unnecessarily offended. The proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, for 1871, are appropriately noticed, and our official actions are all approved. In concluding the address he makes the following remarks :

And now, Sir Knights, in closing this report, permit me to be placed on the record relative to the matter of rotation in office, as applied to the presiding officer of our several Grand Bodies. This I trust will be received as an expression of personal opinion, rather than design to influence the older and better judgment of any Knight present. Personally, I believe in the one term principle, not only as applied to offices of our Grand Commandery, but to all our Grand Bodies. I am aware that this view has not been generally entertained in our State, courtesy, possibly, rather than merit, in some cases, prompting a re-election for a second term, as a kind of endorsement of the official acts of

the first. My immediate predecessor in office, I think, was the first to advocate the one term policy and decline a re-election. The same views were expressed by Grand Master Gardner in his address at the last session of the Grand Encampment, and I most heartily concur with them. I believe that our presiding offices should be filled by our best and most experienced workmen, whether within or without the direct line of promotion, and then for but one *consecutive* year, thus bringing to the surface the intellect within our ranks and stimulating with all an honest emulation in the hope of being eventually "crowned with the laurel."

We must differ from these opinions. It is evident to us that the necessities of a Grand Masonic body should always control it in the selection of its officers, and more particularly in that of its executive head; and that if there is found one member who can more efficiently discharge the duties of that office, with better satisfaction to his fraters than any other, the mere fact that he has once been elected to it should not prohibit his accepting it again. We do not believe that the members of a Grand Commandery are only to be actuated in the performance of their duties by the hope of at some time reaching the highest pinnacle of honor; for how vain must that hope be; if, in a Grand Commandery like that of Indiana, which numbers 1268 Sir Knights, there should be elected every year a new Grand Commander, but a very small portion of the whole could fill that important office! Many, therefore, even on that principle, would have to be disappointed; while, on the other hand, if no such rule exists, the Grand Commandery is left untrammelled to place her destinies in the hands of him who can best wield them. If a comparison could be made of the different Grand bodies of the United States, we think it would be found that those had prospered most who had had, in a given term of years, the fewest chief executives. If a very large majority, as is generally the case when a re-election occurs, are not only satisfied but desire to retain the services of one whom they have found worthy, faithful and active, surely they should be allowed to judge of the expediency of retaining him at his post. The argument used by the Grand Commander of Indiana, that the one term principle had been instituted by the example of several Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment of the United States, is one that does not hold so well with the Grand Commanderies. The Grand Encampment is an entirely different body. There the office of Grand Master is for the space of three years, and for that reason alone a single term ought to suffice the ambition of any Sir Knight; and among so many distinguished Sir Knights as must necessarily assemble in a Grand Encampment, a larger margin for a choice exists than could be possibly found in a Grand Commandery.

The resolution adopted at the last Conclave, requiring Subordinate Commanderies to bear the name of the town, city or post office in which they were located was very properly rescinded; and immediately thereupon a charter was granted to Madison Commandery U. D., to be hereafter designated as the Caleb Schmidlapp Commandery!! Phœbus! what a name.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported in favor of an edict to the effect that the Commander of a Subordinate Commandery should be the only representative of such Subordinate in the Grand Commandery. The matter of the adoption of the recommendation was indefinitely postponed.

Should it not have been rejected altogether in view of the fact that the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States guarantees a seat and a vote in the Grand Commandery to all Past Commanders?

The following decisions were made by a Select Committee, presided over by R. E. Sir William Hacker, and were concurred in.

1st. "Is it proper and right for the members of a Commandery, while working the Red Cross, to appear in full dress as Knights Templars?"

This interrogatory your committee answer in the negative. The proper dress for Sir Knights working in the Order of the Red Cross is the regulation fatigue uniform as prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States.

2d. "Is it proper and right for any Sir Knight to appear in costume as a Knight Templar at the funeral of a Master Mason, without being under the command of the proper officers of a Commandery?"

This interrogatory your committee also answer in the negative; and in order that such improper practices may never occur in this Grand Jurisdiction, it is hereby made the special duty of every Commandery to see that no such improper conduct be hereafter tolerated within their respective jurisdictions without inflicting adequate punishment for the offence.

3d. "Is it proper and right for the Commander of a Commandery to permit a Sir Knight to appear in a public procession of the Order without being in full dress costume as a Sir Knight?"

Your committee answer this also in the negative, and trust that all our Sir Knights will see the propriety of this, and so act that there shall hereafter be no necessity for enforcing this rule.

The same Committee made the following report:

The Committee have also had submitted for their consideration, the following interrogatory:

"Is it proper and right for any member of the Grand Commandery to appear at the Annual Conclave of the same without being clothed in the uniform adopted by the Grand Encampment of the United States?"

"C. S. BRACKENRIDGE."

And having duly considered the same, now report:

That the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States, as also the Constitution of this Grand Commandery, fixes the qualifications of members of the Grand Commandery, and had we the right to change or modify this constitutional provision, your Committee would very much doubt the propriety of doing so at the present time.

Your Committee, however, recommend that at our Grand Conclaves each member, as far as practicable, should appear in full Templar costume, as prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States.

It seems to us that although it is true that the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States fixes the qualifications of members of the Grand Commandery, and that no one has a right to change or modify the same, it is equally true that the same instrument requires obedience by all its subordinates to its edicts and resolutions, and that, by an edict, it has fixed upon a uniform to be worn by all Knights Templar under its jurisdiction; and by implication it seems to us that no Conclave of a Grand Commandery, composed as it is, simply of Representatives of Subordinate Commanderries and those Representatives, the three chief officers of each Subordinate, should always, in obedience to the edicts of the Grand Encampment, appear upon official occasions, in the uniform prescribed by it. It is the duty of every Sir Knight, in obedience to the edict of the Grand Encampment, to provide himself with a Templar costume; certainly, then, it is much more the duty of those who are

elected to preside over their fellows, and to hold the three highest places in the Subordinate Commanderies; and when they, in their official capacity, undertake to represent those who have placed them in their high positions, common decency dictates that they should wear the regalia or uniform proper to those offices.

R. E. Sir Charles Craft was elected Grand Commander, and Sir John M. Bramwell re-elected Grand Recorder.

IOWA.

The eighth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Iowa met at Os-kaloosa, on the seventh of October, 1872.

R. E. Sir Pitkin C. Wright, Grand Commander, thus discourses relative to new Commanderies:

I am thoroughly opposed to multiplying Commanderies. I do not believe that every town that has two railroads passing through it is entitled to, or can support a Commandery. A Commandery is an expensive luxury, and requires great expenditure of time, patience and money to make and keep it a success, and however earnestly and valiantly they may commence, it is almost impossible, even in the smaller cities, to keep them alive and vigorous; it takes more time than many of us have to spare, and this, as requiring the most, is soonest dropped. I believe we have in Iowa twice as many Commanderies as we need, or can well sustain; and of all Masonic failures, a feeble Commandery is the worst. We have Commanderies now with only one, or, at most, two Chapters in their jurisdiction; the average is less than three Chapters to each Commandery. How can such live and thrive?—it is impossible. I know of one Commandery where the members are worthy, energetic, and earnest, but a very few have to sustain and carry it. When I was Grand High Priest, I twice officially visited the Chapter located in the same town, and they were unable at either time to get a quorum. They started a Commandery, worked up all the material, good and indifferent, in their jurisdiction, and are now in debt and disheartened. They could not get a quorum together even to hold their election until the third meeting after it should have been held. When a body is so far gone as not to be able to find members enough to hold an election, it is in a bad way indeed. A town gets a mayor and becomes ambitious—"has eight Sir Knights within its limits and more close by, and quantities of good material"—thinks it hard that they should have to go thirty-five or fifty-five miles to a Commandery in a town no larger and with one less railroad, and asks for a dispensation, which is properly recommended, because if it were not there would be hard feelings and a neighborhood quarrel; the Grand Commander personally knows the petitioners—they are friends of his, good men, true. He cannot conscientiously grant a dispensation, either on account of the newness of another Commandery or because of the manifest fact that one cannot be sustained. The worthy Sir Knights bear it well, and come to the next Grand Commandery for a charter, and a mistaken kindness gives it; so a new body is born to languish and starve along, a burthen and a bore to all concerned. It would be much better for Templar Masonry if half of the Commanderies of Iowa would surrender their charters, and so double the membership influence, and pecuniary ability of the rest. I have no personal views in this matter, and do not intend to "hit" any one or any town, but would ask you, in your deliberations, to ponder well these things, and not fill the State with cheap and feeble Commanderies. Masonry is much too popular, too cheap, and too easy to be good. Let me call your attention to a few of the other States, in order to show you the average membership in their Commanderies compared with ours. California has an average membership of fifty; Connecticut, one hundred and twenty-five; Illinois, sixty-five; Indiana, sixty;

Kentucky, fifty; Louisiana, ninety-five; Maine, one hundred and five; Maryland, eighty-five; Massachusetts and Rhode Island, one hundred and twenty-five; Michigan, sixty; Minnesota, sixty; New Jersey, sixty-five; New York, one hundred and twenty; Pennsylvania, ninety-five; Tennessee, sixty-five; Vermont, sixty-five; Virginia, sixty-five; Wisconsin, seventy. The average of the entire United States is eighty—while that of Iowa is only thirty-five. Where the membership is so small and scattering, with barely a quorum in the town, and some, at least, of the officers non-residents, it is almost impossible to do work as it should be done. Officers are discouraged—the best drill-officer in the world could not get up enthusiasm, or even care for the drill; the Sir Knights will not uniform; discipline is lax, and the *morale* of the whole thing is gone.

There is much more in the address that we should like to quote. There seems to be in this jurisdiction a laxity, in some places, of interest in the order, which should require severe discipline, and it is not in Iowa alone that Templars fail to perform a great part of their duty. The remarks which we are about to quote will apply quite as well in many other places as in Iowa; and there are probably few, if any, Commanderies in the world who have not some members who should read and learn by heart what our illustrious Frater says. It is necessary, in order to keep up the order, that all should have an interest in it; and as it has become the custom during late years to have public ceremonies and parades, which are destined to become more and more frequent, it is necessary, besides, that those who desire to be Templars should qualify themselves to perform all their duties as such; and that it should not be permitted that a few men, who choose to neglect the perfecting of their uniforms or keeping them in order, or fail to learn the drill, should bring disgrace and ridicule upon those Sir Knights whose hearts are really in their work, and desire to maintain the fair fame of the order in appearance as well as in every deed. R. E. Sir Knight Pitkin C. Wright says as follows:

In my several official visits, I have constantly heard complaints of a lack of punctuality and of attendance, especially on the part of officers, to whom great and important duties have been intrusted, and who seem to have thought that when they were installed their obligations to their Commanderies and their brethren were fulfilled, and thus a great injury has been done to the Commandery, and the work of conferring the orders could not be done as it should be, because the proper officers were not present, and "green hands" had to be pressed into the service. "I do not know of a more reprehensible offence against courtesy and duty, than for those who have voluntarily assumed positions to desert them when most needed, without strong and sufficient reasons; and it is no less a duty of the members to support their superiors by their presence and assistance, than it is for the latter to be punctual and in readiness to carry out the duties assigned to them." This neglect arises from various causes. Officers and members are both alike to blame. Members will not procure uniforms, will not attend the meetings for drill, and the whole business of the Commandery is carried on in a dull, slouchy, listless manner. In one Commandery which numbers among its members three Past Eminent Commanders, two Deputy Past Grand Commanders, two Past Grand Generalissimos, six Past Grand High Priests, a Past Grand Master of Iowa, and numerous other Past Grand officials, the Eminent Commander informed me that their Commandery had never been opened or closed in form, nor had he seen it done in any Commandery. No wonder the officers were careless and the members are equally so. The most beautiful body in Masonry, the most interesting and attractive one, is a Commandery of Knights Templar, when properly conducted, opened in form, strict discipline maintained, members all uniformed, and everything

done with precision and in the proper time and place. We have such in Iowa, and all might be so if they would. Do not consider me as finding fault—my criticisms are much more in sorrow than in anger. I am proud of Iowa Masonry. Among the Grand Bodies of the country none stand higher than hers. In any of them, to hail from Iowa is considered a guarantee of Masonic soundness and usefulness. We have some as good Commanderies, and as well drilled, as can be found anywhere outside of the great cities; and as to the work of conferring the orders, I am willing to compare some of ours with the best Commanderies of any State. But all this should not blind us to our failings, and to the fact that there is still great room for improvement.

The following resolution was adopted, and settles the uniform question so far as Iowa is concerned, and the action ought to be indicative to some few Commanderies of the general feeling throughout the country on the subject:

Resolved, That the edict of the Grand Master of Templars for the United States, enforcing the edict of the Grand Encampment of 1862, on the subject of KNIGHTLY COSTUME, be re-printed in the proceedings of this session, and strictly enforced in this jurisdiction.

The following amendment was adopted to the resolution prohibiting the remission or donation of a part of the fees of candidates for the orders, and we think it very fully and properly covers the whole ground:

And in case any Commandery shall, on any pretense whatever, refund or remit, in any way whatsoever, to any candidate, any portion of the fees for orders conferred, that Commandery shall, as a penalty, pay to the Grand Commandery, in addition to its regular dues, a sum equal to the amount so remitted or refunded.

It is stated in the proceedings, as a matter of record, that the Report of the Committee on Correspondence was presented by Sir Knight Guilbert, and was received and ordered to be printed with the proceedings; which we think must be a mistake, as we cannot find it even with the aid of one of Corson's microscopes. But by an addendum of Sir Knight Langridge, the Grand Recorder, under date of December 23d, 1872, it appears that, owing to the non-receipt of the report, he was compelled to issue the proceedings without it. He promises, however, that as soon as received it will be printed and a copy sent. It has not reached us, and we greatly fear that our friend, the Doctor, has been too busy to prepare it. None can more regret than ourselves that which we have lost.

R. E. Sir B. R. Sherman was elected Grand Commander, and Sir W. B. Langridge re-elected Grand Recorder.

KENTUCKY.

The twenty-fifth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, was held at Frankfort, July 10th, 1872.

R. E. Sir W. H. Smith, Grand Commander, in his address, adopts Order No. Three of the Grand Master relative to uniform, and very properly says in relation thereto:

The subject of uniform has been fully discussed by my predecessors in office; yet I cannot forbear a remark in passing. The uniform of a Knight Templar was not *recommended* by the Grand Encampment, but was *prescribed*. It is therefore, the duty of every Sir Knight to uniform himself according to law. The wisdom of the regulation is demonstrated in the fact that those Commanderies whose members are uniformed excel in the drill, in the work, and in de-

votion to the Order. It is next to impossible to drill much or well without a uniform of some kind; and it is quite impossible, in the conference of the Orders, to render our sublime and beautiful ceremonies in the most solemn and impressive manner without both the uniform and drill. The prescribed uniform is chaste and elegant, while the expense is not burdensome. I would therefore recommend that some definite time be fixed, and that every applicant for the Orders be required to promise in his petition to uniform himself within that time.

Our esteemed friend, Sir William C. Munger, presented a very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he notices our proceedings of 1872.

R. E. Sir William H. Warren was elected Grand Commander, and Sir William C. Munger re-elected Grand Recorder.

MAINE.

The twenty-first Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Maine, was held at Portland, 8th May, 1872.

In the address of R. E. Sir Henry H. Dickey, Grand Commander, we find the following relative to the last Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, which we heartily endorse:

It was an occasion to be long remembered by those who were present; but the reproach of sacrificing business to pleasure, brought against former meetings, could not with truth be said of this; for so far as my observation extended, the members of the Grand Encampment attended faithfully the sessions of that body, and left the enjoyment of the festivities to the visiting Knights.

We greatly rejoice to find him thoroughly resolved to execute Order No. 3 of the Grand Master on uniform. In his jurisdiction there are many Templars to whom this order is, unnecessarily, we think, repugnant. It is hard to understand why there should be any among us who would not be as willing to be as uniform in dress as they are in work; why any should wish to be different from their Fraters; why so small a minority should wish to appear to the outside world in an entirely different garb from the great Body of the Order. On the contrary, it appears to us, that it should be their desire, at any expense and at any risk, to sacrifice everything rather than not appear upon an equal footing with their companions in arms. Do the Sir Knights who wish to wear uniforms different from others, claim that this exemption should be allowed on account of their age or the age of the Commanderies to which they belong? And if this be true, do they claim that they are any better entitled to any higher rank, to more distinction or to more consideration than a newly made Templar? We are all bound by equal vows, by equal ties, by equal laws; all our forms and ceremonies are entirely similar; we recognize an equality among ourselves; why, therefore, should there be this distinction; and why should this distinction be so urgently insisted upon, as it appears to be by some few Commanderies in the Northeastern part of our country? If among the Grand Commanderies, there should be differences of work or differences of law, no one would hesitate to say that it was not only the right, but the duty of the Grand Encampment to reconcile those differences and correct any abuses that might exist, in order to make everything equal and uniform. If, then, this right and duty exists, so far as the esoteric part of our institution is concerned, does it not stand to reason that it should be exerted still more forcibly to make uniform our

appearance when exposing ourselves to the gaze of the proane and the vulgar? We are either one body of men or we are not; and it has been decided within the last ten years, and particularly by the very firm action taken recently by the Grand Encampment in the case of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, that we are one body, all subject to the same general laws and the same general head, and that the Templars of the United States had made up their minds and set down their foot that they are a single body, and that they will not permit any other body of the same kind to claim jurisdiction equal or co-ordinate with them within the limits of this country. This having been the determination so manifestly expressed at so many different times, it became just as much necessary that the costume of a Knight Templar should be made uniform as it was necessary that the work should be uniform. The Grand Encampment made the uniform in 1862. Since that time vain efforts have been made to change it. At every Conclave since that date, resolutions looking to its alteration, resolutions looking to a compromise between suggestions of different costumes, have all been coldly disposed of in a manner indicating that the subject was one which the Grand Encampment would and ought to refuse to entertain; as a subject which it was dangerous to open, and from the opening of which no good could result. We only agree, then, with some of the most eminent of the Sir Knights of the United States, in all parts of the country, when we say that Order No. 3, was necessarily issued by the Grand Master in view of the history of the uniform which had been marked out by the proceedings of the different Conclaves of the Grand Encampment, and to at once insist upon something that for the fair fame, good repute and decent appearance of the Order, would accomplish the object that all men have in view.

R. E. Sir Henry H. Dickey, says:

And now, Sir Knights, I come to what to some of you is a tender subject. I allude to Order No. 3, of the Grand Master, on uniform. I fully sympathize with you in your attachment to your old costume, endeared as it is to you by old associations, and your own opinions as to its beauty and appropriateness; I do not wonder that you are loth to part with it, but I can only counsel submission to the requirements of the Grand Encampment, to which we have all vowed allegiance. The Grand Master is the authorized interpreter of the law, and from his decision there is no appeal. This Grand Body has always been unswerving in her allegiance to the Grand Encampment, when others were in actual or quasi rebellion. She has kept her vows of fealty in *spirit* as well as *form*, and I feel assured that the sons will never tarnish the record the fathers have left.

I am satisfied that your Grand Master does not intend to have this order enforced in an arbitrary or unjust manner, nor to require its immediate enforcement, when that would destroy any of our subordinates; but that we must eventually conform, I have no doubt.

Sir Josiah H. Drummond, Deputy Grand Commander, at the request of his superior officer, presented a very interesting report of the doings of the last Conclave of the Grand Encampment. Our space forbids our quoting it.

Sir Ira Berry, Grand Recorder, presented the following report, which we commend on account of its brevity.

PORTLAND, May 7, 1872.

To the Grand Commandery of Maine:

Your Recorder deems it unnecessary to make any further report of his acts during the past year, than to present the published Proceedings and Book of

Records—holding that, when a man has nothing to say, it is well to say it in as few words as may be. Respectfully submitted,

IRA BERRY, *Grand Recorder.*

Sir Josiah H. Drummond again presents the report on Foreign Correspondence.

Our proceedings of 1872 are acknowledged. He agrees with us in the belief that it is in the power of the Grand Commanderies to exclude a member who is not in the prescribed costume. He says:

While the Grand Encampment determines who shall be members of Grand Commanderies, it also provides that these members, when acting as such, shall be clothed in proper costume: and we believe that it is as competent for a Grand Commandery to exclude a member who is not in the prescribed costume, as it would be to exclude one who should undertake to attend while intoxicated.

In relation to our remarks of last year relative to the conferring in Canada of the Order of Knight of the Red Cross in Councils of Royal and Select Masters, he says that Grand Master Gardner sanctioned this very thing, and that his action was submitted by him to the Grand Encampment, and was confirmed by it. He says: "Relying upon that authority, we in Maine have recognized Red Cross Knights made in Councils of Royal and Select Masters held in Canada, as we felt ourselves bound to do. Are we not right?" We do not remember that the action of Grand Master Gardner was confirmed by the Grand Encampment, perhaps it was, but we certainly do not think that it is right to recognize Red Cross Knights made in Councils of Royal and Select Masters anywhere; and we find the following letter from the Grand Master on the subject, in the proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, for 1872:

GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS TEMPLARS, UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER,

NEW ORLEANS, November 20, 1871.

William Sewall Gardner, Esq.,

Most Eminent Sir and Brother:—Your communication as chairman of special committee of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, of date of November 4th, came to hand just as I had received a telegram calling me to Washington to attend the Supreme Court.

In reply, I am not able to perceive what we have to do in the matter forming the subject of your communication. In the first place, Councils of Royal and Select Masters have nothing to do of right with the Order of the Red Cross; are not, and in my opinion, cannot properly be custodians of the Order (or degree?) under any circumstances; and secondly, as Templars, we know nothing about the degrees of Royal and Select Masters any way, and cannot know.

I do not see that there is any propriety or reasonableness in the request made by the Grand Council for Ontario, and I am certain that the Grand Encampment cannot confer with them on the subject without a previous change in the Constitution, nor can I, as Grand Master, nor your Grand Commandery, comply with their request.

Your Grand Commandery can supply no one with the Work and Lectures of the Red Cross, except Commanderies of Knights Templars, nor communicate the same to any one except it be to a Royal Arch Mason who has been elected in a regular Commandery.

With these views, I must decline to give the authorization requested, and in the meantime have the honor to remain,

Respectfully and courteously yours,

J. Q. A. FELLOWS,
Grand Master.

From this it would seem that the question is by no means a settled one, and, therefore, we can well afford to still hold to our opinions as laid down in our report of last year, and think that after a calm deliberation, our distinguished brother will agree with our conclusions.

He asks us how can Rhode Island have her Grand Commandery without any interference by the Grand Encampment, when the Constitution of the latter expressly makes Massachusetts and Rhode Island one jurisdiction. This must be, we think, a play upon the word "interference." We do not regard, strictly speaking, every action that the Grand Encampment may take as an interference. If the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island requests the Grand Encampment of the United States to partition their jurisdiction, and the Grand Encampment consents thereto, and authorizes it, this may be technically an "interference;" but we would rather look upon it in the light of a request granted, of an approbation, of an acquiescence; and even if it required an amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, still such action in such an hypothesis would not be an "interference."

In speaking upon the effort to change the name of the order of Red Cross Knights, he makes the following remarks, with which we fully coincide:

If there would never be any attempt at any further innovation than this proposed change of name, we might be willing to favor the proposed change. But when we see an attempt in Pennsylvania and Tennessee to discard this Order altogether from our system, which has been almost a century growing up to its present prosperous condition, we are compelled to set our face like a flint against any and all innovation upon the system our fathers have handed down to us.

We give the following as his opinion relative to the nomenclature of the individual Templar:

We find that "Sir Knight" and even "Sir Priest" were in use in those early days, if we may trust the historians. While we do not object to, and occasionally use, the term "frater," it smacks so much of pedantry, that, "for a steady drink," we prefer the English words. We relish none of these proposed innovations upon our system any more for their being proposed under the plea of ancient usage, for we have found that that very plea is almost always invoked in favor of all innovations.

His report on the question of Costume, elicited by the edict of the Grand Master, although lengthy, is so very valuable and exhaustive, that we feel obliged to give it in full:

The M. E. Grand Master having, by Edict No. 3, declared that the only lawful costume is that adopted by the Grand Encampment in 1862, and some discussion having arisen in consequence, we have taken some pains to examine the legislation in regard to the matter, as well as the historical facts which bear upon it.

We have examined pretty carefully such of the published Proceedings as we have, which include the Proceedings of the Grand Encampment and of all the Grand Commanderies, except Massachusetts and Rhode Island for the years

previous to 1864, Connecticut previous to 1841, Virginia previous to 1839, and the old Grand Commandery of New Hampshire, which became dormant in 1837.

This examination clearly shows that no Grand Commandery adopted a costume; but that the procuring of one was held to be a matter of discretion with each Sir Knight, and the kind of costume was regulated by his taste and his purse. Some Subordinate Commanderies may have adopted expressly a particular style, but it is believed that when the costume of any body was uniform it was by general consent rather than by express vote. The desirability of each Sir Knight's having a costume, and of having costumes uniform, seems to have been recognized, but it was assumed to be a matter to be accomplished by persuasion and not by decree. The objections to legislation upon the subject were not in reference to the *kind* of costume but to *compelling* Sir Knights to procure *any*.

The first reference to costume that we find is in the New York Proceedings, upon the occasion of receiving the Grand Encampment and General Grand Chapter, in September, 1841. The following was worn on that occasion, in accordance with the recommendation of a committee: "Dress black, black stock and gloves, plain black scarf over the left shoulder; chapeau with black satin cockade, black apron of triangular form, and straight sword. Officers and members of the Grand Encampment, (New York), to wear the trimmings of the chapeau, apron and sword, of gold; all others of silver. No feathers to be worn by any one."

In 1854, a resolution was adopted in New York *requesting* delegates to appear in the Grand Body in the clothing of their several bodies. The next year the Deputy Grand Master of New York calls attention to the subject, saying that while the color of the groundwork of the costumes was generally the same, all unity of idea ceased there, and decoration was limited only by the purse and will of the wearer. He argues from a similar exercise of power by the Grand Lodge, that that Grand Commandery could, with propriety, establish a standard uniform. His suggestions were favorably received and a committee appointed to report the next year. In 1856, accordingly, the Grand Master called attention to the subject in his address, and the committee reported. They reported that the idea so generally prevalent that the distinguishing color of our dress should be black has no proper foundation, and is not in keeping with that worn by our ancient brethren and defined by their Statutes. In proof of which they quote the following:

"XX. To all professed Knights, both in winter and summer, we give, if they can be procured, **WHITE GARMENTS**, that those who have cast behind them a dark life, may know that they are to commend themselves to their Creator by a pure and white life; etc.

"XXI. Let all the esquires and retainers be clothed in *black* garments; but if such cannot be found, let them have what can be procured in the province where they live, so that they be of one color, and such as is of a meanly character, viz: brown.

"XXII. It is granted to none to wear **WHITE** habits or to have **WHITE** mantles, excepting the above named Knights of Christ."

The Committee conclude their report by recommending the adoption of a resolution requesting the Representatives to the General Grand Encampment to bring the subject before that body and to "endeavor to procure the adoption of a standard for the Order throughout the United States."

This is the first action of any Grand Commandery upon the subject, so far as we have any knowledge.

In 1856, the matter was, for the first time, brought before the Grand Encampment. The Grand Master, in his address, refers to the fact that anciently those assembled in Chapters and Conclaves were dressed in the appropriate costume of the Order, and says that no statute had been adopted, but that there was a necessity for correct and permanent rules on the subject; that he had

been appealed to to define the costume, but as there had been a decided departure from the ancient Statutes he had concluded to defer the matter to the decision of the Grand Encampment. This portion of his address was referred to a Special Committee. The Committee appointed at the preceding Conclave to report a revised Constitution, reported as a part of it Statutes establishing a uniform. The consideration of these Statutes was postponed to the next Triennial Conclave. In the revised Constitution, as then unanimously adopted, it is provided: "It is the prerogative and duty of the Grand Master" * * to see * * *"that the dress, work and discipline of Templar Masonry everywhere are uniform."*

At the Grand Conclave in 1859, the Grand Master brings the matter before the Body in the following language:

"I beg leave to again call your earnest attention to the importance and indeed imperious necessity of your adopting and establishing the dress and costume of a Knight Templar, which shall be uniform and the same according to rank throughout your whole jurisdiction. The Constitution requires it by express provision, and even if it did not, the necessity for it would be alike apparent. All of our readings and traditions on this subject show unmistakably that the dress of our Ancient Templars was uniform, though the largest liberty was allowed in reference to individual coats of arms; and in their palmiest days, to the costliness of their helmets, shields and bucklers, spurs, etc. If an edict on this subject had been issued in the early history of your proceedings, it would then have met with much less difficulty than at the present time, and in my humble opinion the longer it is delayed the more difficult will be its accomplishment. By reason of the past inaction on this subject, many of the individual subordinates, and in some cases individual Templars have chosen their own or copied from others, violating no edict or rule of your Grand Body, but not having any authoritative sanction for the same. From which causes and the lapse of time, the dress and costume are the reverse of uniform. And it is reasonable to suppose that each section and subordinate are more or less wedded and attached to their own. But if this subject was referred to a committee of sufficient number to represent the various sections of your jurisdiction, and each would bring to their aid a determination mutually to concede what might be found necessary for union and concert of action, I doubt not the result would be harmonious and satisfactory. The spirit of true Templar courtesy and magnanimity should prevail in that as well as in all of our Councils. Wherever there is an honest will there will be found a way to accomplish a good deed, and I trust you will not separate until this important measure is accomplished."

A resolution was thereupon adopted, referring the subject, as well as the Report of the Committee at the preceding Conclave and postponed to this, to a Special Committee. The Committee made a report which was laid upon the table and printed. The next day the report was taken up, amended and adopted. The report is merely a description of the uniform. As soon as the report was adopted, a member of the Committee offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

"Resolved, That the costume this day adopted by the Grand Encampment be, and the same is hereby ordered to be worn by all Commanderies chartered at this Communication, or that shall be hereafter established in this jurisdiction, and by all Commanderies heretofore existing, whenever they shall procure a new costume; and that no officer, member or Knight be, after this session, allowed to sit in this Grand Encampment unless clothed in the uniform hereby prescribed; and that the State Grand Commanderies be directed to enforce it in all subordinates that may be hereafter chartered in their respective jurisdictions."

It must be admitted that this resolution is somewhat indefinite and uncertain. It was not an amendment to the Constitution in form, nor was it adopted as such, for amendments to the Constitution then were required to be presented

one day in advance and notice thereof given. It is well settled that a resolution conflicting with the Constitution is void. And it is a matter of surprise that such a resolution should be adopted after the attention of the Grand Encampment had been specifically called to the Constitution by the Grand Master. Undoubtedly the resolution was adopted hastily, and without much discussion or consideration. That this is true, is evident from the now well known fact that those who participated in its adoption differ seriously from each other in the construction they then understood was put upon it. Some say that it was intended to mean that the new costume must be adopted by all new Commanderies and by all old ones when new costume should be procured, leaving its enforcement, as to old Commanderies having uniforms, *for the subsequent action of the Grand Encampment*; that there is nothing in the resolution relieving old Commanderies from obligation to procure the new uniform, save that they were not then *ordered* to do so; that no *rights* were reserved to them, but merely a *temporary indulgence* granted to them that while a costume was adopted and others *ordered* to adopt it, they are not included in the order at the time, but the matter left open for future action. This is undoubtedly the actual construction of the language, but others did not so understand it. Such construction is not in conflict with the Constitution, as there is nothing in that resolution to have prevented the Grand Master's exercising his constitutional prerogative and ordering it to be adopted by the old as well as new Commanderies. It does not provide that the old Commanderies shall be excused from adopting it. Those who understood it to have this construction understood the object of it to be to give to those who had been to the expense of a uniform a reasonable time in which to obtain the new one, without being obliged to do it at once. Others understood the resolution to exempt those having uniforms from procuring the new one forever, unless their Commandery should formally adopt it, and that the Commanderies having it could always retain it, and some go so far as to assert that the resolution was a "compromise," and as such was to be a portion of the fundamental law forever. This latter view is evidently absurd, as it was not even made a part of the Constitution, and the conclave of 1859 had no power to bind its successors legally or honorably. A "compromise," understood to be such, binds only the individual members of a legislative body who are parties to it, and no others. Neither the resolution nor the record discloses any such understanding; and a "compromise" resting in oral traditions, especially when it was unknown to many of those who participated in the action, is of the feeblest kind. But that some understood that old Commanderies having uniforms were exempt, is very certain. In another respect, there was a difference in the interpretation; some understood that whenever a Sir Knight got a new uniform it must be the prescribed one; others, that individual members, whether new ones or not, could procure the uniform of their Commandery, until the *Commandery* procured a new one; and this construction was carried so far that in more than one instance, when all the costumes of a Commandery were destroyed, save one or two, the old one was procured, the one or two which were saved leavening the whole lump.

The action of the different Grand Commanderies affords us but little light. New York ordered the officers of subordinates and all newly created Knights to obtain and wear the new costume, and prohibited admission at its sessions to all (except visitors) not in regulation costume.

In 1862, as soon as the Grand Encampment was opened, a resolution was adopted suspending the resolution of 1859 during the session. As soon as the committees were announced, a resolution was adopted that the "subject matter of costume and the resolution relating thereto (that of 1859), were referred to a special committee. The committee reported a new uniform, which was adopted. *They did not report back the resolution of 1859.* Their idea of that resolution seems to have been that it was of a temporary character, and was no longer necessary. They say that what had previously been done was in the right direction, but that a point had been reached where *complete success* might be

reasonably anticipated. The reference of the whole matter and the resolution of 1859 to a committee and the acceptance and adoption of their report of a new uniform was most clearly, under parliamentary law, a substitution of the new for the old action, and was a repeal of the former action, resolution and all.

We have carefully examined the Proceedings of the Grand Commanderies to ascertain whether they construed this action as distinguishing between the old Commanderies having a uniform in 1859 and the others. Alabama adopted the new uniform (in 1866) making it universal. We cannot find that California took any action save to remain *in statu quo*, fearing another change, having adopted the uniform of 1859. Connecticut adopted the uniform of 1862 "throughout the jurisdiction," although the black uniform had been in use there. Indiana, which had several styles of uniform, at first hesitated for fear of further changes, but finally adopted it. Kentucky, in 1860, directed its subordinates to adopt the costume of 1859. In Maine, in 1863, Grand Commander Thompson reported the adoption, by the Grand Encampment, of the new uniform, and adds, "it is believed that the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment has already sent down a full description of the new uniform, for all the Commanderies. If it is not so, measures should be forthwith taken to have all Commanderies supplied without delay. I suggest that inquiry be made by a committee as to what action is necessary by this Grand Commandery at this session, in order to comply with the order of the Grand Encampment in relation to uniform in this jurisdiction." The Grand Commandery ordered the action of the Grand Encampment to be printed, "that we may understand and comply with our duty in relation thereto." The Grand Commander evidently understood that the order of the Grand Encampment applied to all our Commanderies: it is true that he allowed the old Commanderies to continue to wear their old uniform, but he also allowed a new Commandery, chartered in 1864, to adopt the old uniform; but that could not have been justified, even under the resolution of 1859. Massachusetts and Rhode Island continued to allow her subordinates, chartered after 1862, to adopt a uniform to suit themselves, paying no attention to the action of the Grand Encampment. We do not find that Michigan, Mississippi or Missouri took any express action upon the subject, but they, in practice, conformed to the law. New Hampshire voted that they "deemed it important" for the subordinate Commanderies to adopt the prescribed costume. But we are informed that it has never been done; but the non-action is not claimed to be justified under the resolution of 1859. New Jersey passed no vote, but practically adopted the uniform. New York at once adopted it "for the government of all Sir Knights in this jurisdiction." Ohio rejected the uniform of 1859, as well as the amendments of the Constitution; but afterwards adopted the amendments and the uniform; but instructed (in 1864) her delegates to present to the Grand Encampment the objections to the new costume, and to "endeavor to obtain a return to the old costume." No word is said that the resolution of 1859 allowed them to retain the old. In 1865, before the session of the Grand Encampment, this instruction was rescinded and the prescribed costume declared to be the appropriate costume in that jurisdiction, and adopted as such. In Pennsylvania, in 1856, a long report was made in relation to the costume proposed in the Grand Encampment in 1856, and a costume recommended; the report was accepted and ordered to be spread on the minutes, but we do not know whether the proposed costume was thereby adopted. In 1863, the Grand Commander reported the adoption of the new uniform, saying he hoped the vexed question was at rest. No action seems to have been taken, but we understand that the new costume was adopted by the Sir Knights. Tennessee and Texas declared themselves independent of the Grand Encampment in 1861; the former, in 1866, published the edict of 1862 in relation to uniform, and we understand conforms to it; the latter, in 1859, took measures looking to the ultimate adoption of the uniform adopted that year, proposing to change gradually, as circumstances would permit; but we are not aware that any action has been taken in reference to that of 1862.

Vermont adopted it without reservation. Virginia has not acted upon the question and continues to use the old uniform in new as well as old Commanderies, as we are informed. Wisconsin ordered the edict to be published in the Proceedings, as prescribing the costume to be worn in that jurisdiction.

Thus we do not find that any Grand Commandery understood that the resolution of 1859 was in force after 1862; that nearly all the Grand Commanderies have conformed to the edict of 1862, although, if the resolution of 1859 had continued in force, almost all the older ones would have had occasion and the right to rely upon it, as almost all had Commanderies with the old uniform; and that those which still have Commanderies with the old uniform have not relied on the resolution of 1859 or kept within its terms, but have retained the old uniform either in ignorance or disregard of the laws of the Grand Encampment, having retained it for Commanderies chartered *since* 1862, as well as for those existing and having uniforms in 1859.

An effort was made by our Representatives in the Grand Conclave of 1871, to have the resolution of 1859 recognized as in force and Grand Commanderies allowed to extend it to all their subordinates, but it failed; the moment that it became known to the Grand Encampment that the proposition contemplated the use of a costume other than the one prescribed, the proposition was defeated; and from the promptness with which every proposed change in the uniform was voted down, we soon learned that it was of no use to expect that any change, however slight, would be allowed. Nor did there then appear to be any greater willingness to remit the whole subject to the several Grand Commanderies.

The report of the Committee on the doings of Grand Officers, submitted by Sir Edward P. Burnham, contains the following clause:

They have examined the edict of the Grand Master in relation to costume, and find it to be absolute in its character. It therefore seems to your committee that the subordinate Commanderies have no option in the matter, but must comply therewith.

This report was adopted, and we hope settles the question of uniform, so far as Maine is concerned. After she wheels into line there are but few left to follow, and public opinion must enforce them to obedience.

R. E. Sir Henry H. Dickey, Grand Commander, and Sir Ira Berry, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

MARYLAND.

The second Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, was held on the 15th of May, 1872.

R. E. Charles H. Mann, Grand Commander, in his address, gives a very thorough review of the proceedings at Baltimore, during the Assembly of the National Grand Bodies, which we would gladly quote in full, had we time and space.

The following decision needs no commentary. The singularity of the case, however, has induced us to copy it.

The following questions came up for my decision: A young Mason, who had received the degrees in Canada, applied for the Orders of the Temple in one of our Commanderies, but being under age, I decided he could not receive them. His friends thought it unjust, as he came accredited from a legal Lodge and Chapter, who confer the degrees at times on minors. I stated his case to Grand Master Fellows; his answer not being positive in the premises, I declined to reconsider my decision. I have long held the opinion that a great wrong is done chivalric Masons by young men rushed through the Lodge and Chapter

and into the Order of the Temple, as soon as they arrive at lawful age, and before they can realize the responsibilities placed upon them by the symbolic degrees. I cast no reflection upon the young Mason in question, for I believe him to be all we might desire, if he were of lawful age.

Sir E. T. Shultz, Grand Captain General, presents a report of his doings, which is embraced within a single page of the proceedings before us. While this short report faithfully details all the doings of our distinguished Frater at Baltimore during the eighteenth triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, it is surprising to us how an account of the immense amount of work which was done by the Grand Captain General of Maryland could have been compressed into so small a space. Every one who was present must remember him as the life of the occasion. He was almost omnipresent. He was indefatigable in his exertions for the welfare, the comfort and the happiness of about five thousand Templars. In his hand he held the destinies of all of them; provided them food, lodging and comforts generally; saw that each one of them was properly located and well provided for; was constantly in his office issuing orders and receiving reports; attended to all the receptions, provided escorts, procured places of meeting, arranged programmes of banquets, and generally had charge of the whole management of the affairs; and acquitted himself to the perfect satisfaction and admiration of every one.

Sir Hermon L. Emmons, Jr., presented a very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, in which our proceedings of 1872 are noticed. He says that we quote pretty freely from Corson; and as a good many other chairmen of Correspondence Committees have said the same thing, and it seems to imply much more than is expressed, we would ask a reference to our last report, and to be told then, whether what we have quoted from Corson was not a matter of public, and even national interest. Certainly the assembling of the Reporter's Convention at Baltimore, and the crowning of the Poet Laureate, were matters attracting universal attention, and it was impossible for us to omit all mention of them in our report, and we could not do justice to the subject ourselves with Corson's original report staring us in the face; therefore, in justice to our Fraters of Louisiana, for whom, and for whom only, our reports are made, we gave the very best account of those incidents by taking them bodily from Corson.

R. E. Sir Charles H. Mann, Grand Commander, and Frank J. Kugler, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.

We have the proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, for the year ending October 27th, 1871; including several Special Assemblies constituting new Commanderies, consecration of banners, and for other purposes, at each of which very instructive and interesting addresses were made by the Grand Commander. It is impossible for us in this report either to quote or extract from them.

At the Semi-Annual Assembly, of May 26th, 1871, a report was read of the proceedings of the Convention of Knights Templar, held on the work in pursuance to the order of the Grand Commandery of the previous year. The

Convention appears to have very thoroughly investigated the different systems of work, but of course it is impossible for us to comment upon the conclusions arrived at.

A resolution was adopted prohibiting any subordinate Commandery from appearing on parade in Templar costume without having first obtained a dispensation from the Grand Commander, except in cases of funerals.

M. E. Sir Benjamin Dean, in his address, thus discourses relative to the entertainments that are customary in the Order, and we agree with him in his conclusions.

Now if you think that the official visits should be made by the visiting officer without any companions, you have but to say so. If you are to go without the usual banquet, you can easily say so. In former times when the Grand Encampment met in Boston, Boston Encampment entertained the Grand Body with unbounded hospitality; and when we met at Providence, the Sir Knights there did the same. Thus originated the custom of banquets. Now this body is so large, and so well able to defray its own bills, that it cannot depend upon the generosity of its subordinates. But you will not say anything of the kind. You all know how much our present system of things keeps up the general interest and adds to the general prosperity. I have in my mind as an illustration, one Encampment of this jurisdiction, which for years did no work or next to none. Still the Grand Officers made their annual visits. On those occasions, the Knights of the visited Commandery most hospitably entertained the Grand Officers, and then apologized for their forlorn condition. They said they had no material for work. The young men emigrated. They couldn't get candidates, and finally when they got a few, the then Grand Commander attended and did the work.

The Annual Assembly was held on the twenty-seventh of October, 1871.

The Grand Commander reports some difficulty in enforcing the resolution relative to parades, which we have referred to above, and quotes many instances of dispensations having been applied for to him and his action thereon, all of which goes very far to prove to us the necessity of the edict adopted.

R. E. Sir Nicholas Van Slyck, was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Alfred F. Chapman, was elected Grand Recorder.

We have also the proceedings of this Grand Commandery, for the year ending October 25th, 1872. The Grand Master, in his address, at the Semi-Annual Assembly, May 24th, 1872, promulgates Order No. 3, of the Grand Master relative to uniform, and thus comments upon it:

You will see that by the terms of the Order no *new* obligation is laid upon your Grand Commander, and he has, therefore, taken no action thereunder.

We however deem it our duty to read the same to you and to ask you to give it such consideration as the relations of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island to the Grand Encampment of the United States of America require. We should do everything that can well be done to keep in harmony with, and I may add, in obedience to its proper requirements. To refuse this, is to strike at the principle that sustains Masonry in all its stages—that binds it together, that makes it the beautiful and symmetrical institution it is. If among the last to yield full recognition to the United States Grand Encampment, yet will we be among the first in the faithful performance of every duty required by our allegiance.

It has not been considered as a violation of our duty not to require and therefore it has been determined not to require any Commandery to change its established costume or regalia, still would it not be well to require all Commanderies hereafter chartered to provide themselves with costumes or regalia, banners, etc., in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Encampment. This can be done without the objections having any application that are made to a requirement extending the rule to existing bodies.

We deem it our duty to recommend the adoption of a rule or edict to the above effect.

The Grand Commander, in view of his official station, refused the office of Eminent Commander of Calvary Commandery to which he was elected, which we think was the proper course for him to pursue.

At the Annual Assembly, held on October 25th, 1872, the Grand Master, in his address, under the head of Parades and Pilgrimages, again records trouble in enforcing the edict passed in 1871. It appears that Sir Henry H. Dickey, Grand Commander of Maine, understanding that a Commandery of Massachusetts was about to pass through his jurisdiction in a uniform or costume other than that prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States, wrote to the Grand Commander of Massachusetts and Rhode Island to the effect that the appearance of Knights Templars in such costume could not be tolerated in the jurisdiction of Maine. The Grand Commander of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, of course, acceded immediately and issued his orders accordingly.

Afterwards, Worcester County Commandery of Massachusetts requested their Grand Commander to apply to the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment for a dispensation to allow them to wear their regalia in the State of Maine, which request the Grand Commander very properly refused to comply with. Right E. Sir Knight Van Slyck thus comments upon the whole matter:

It will be seen that the non-requirement with the terms of the Grand Master's edict in reference to regalia, prevents all subordinate Commanderies in Massachusetts and Rhode Island from passing outside of our territory, if the ruling of R. E. Grand Commander Dickey is followed by other Grand Commanders, (excepting of course the few Commanderies who have adopted the United States Regulation Regalia). I have set forth this correspondence and my action so much at length, that your especial attention may be the more earnestly drawn to this subject, and that some action may be had in reference to it at this Annual Assembly. It shows also the desirability of either conforming as soon as the circumstances of the case will allow to the edict, or the procurement of its abrogation. The Grand Commander would like a conformance, still he well knows the utter impossibility of complying therewith at present, not from a want of desire on the part of all Knights to obey, but because without saying anything in reference to the antiquity of the regalia worn by a majority of our Commanderies, nor its good taste, of the expense of such a change. We should at least go as far as I recommended in my address to the Semi-Annual Assembly, and should we go one step farther it would be well. The ground of expense would be obviated should permission be given to all Knights to wear any regalia by them now owned, but forbidding them and prohibiting all Knights hereafter supplying themselves, from procuring any other than that prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States.

In 1871, a communication of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, asking to be supplied with the Red Cross Ritual, was referred to a

Committee, of which Past Grand Master Gardner was Chairman. He reported the letter of the present Grand Master, which we have quoted under the head of Maine, and requested that the Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subjects submitted to them, which was done.

The matter of costume and regalia with the order of the Grand Master, was referred at the Semi-Annual Assembly in May, to a Committee, of which Past Grand Master Gardner was named Chairman. At the Annual Assembly in October, he requested and was granted further time to make his report.

There are no reports in either of the pamphlets before us upon Foreign Correspondence.

In 1869, the matter of adopting the system of Grand Representation, was brought before the Grand Commandery by Past Grand Commander Baker, and referred to a Committee, at whose recommendation no action was taken at that time. At the Annual Assembly of 1871 the same subject was brought up and again referred to a Committee, who were also, on their recommendation, discharged from the further consideration of the subject. Past Grand Commander Dean, Chairman of the new Committee on Grand Representation, however, makes the following explanations:

The Committee made no examination and gave the subject no consideration except to look at certain printed proceedings and rejected it as unworthy of consideration. The subject has not been properly considered, whatever its importance. Let us suppose the appointment merely honorary, why reject it for that reason? If a body of Knights Templars comes from Virginia, we, with full ranks fall into line to do them honor, and no expense or trouble is too great that can minister to their comfort; and when we return the visit they make the land flow with milk and honey to testify their welcome. If they say let us establish friendly relations by the interchange of representatives, let us thus show our good will towards each other, we refuse the proffered hand, we say, "no! It is courtesy only, and not of any practical importance."

But if it be courtesy it is Knightly courtesy, and if the Grand Commanders of Georgia and Kansas, remembering the land of their birth, and with hearts yearning toward their old New England homes, seize upon the opportunity presented by their elevated Masonic position, to do a Knightly and courteous act, and establish more intimate Masonic relations between their Grand Commanderies and that of the land of their childhood; how can we, as true and courteous Knights, refuse to recognize and respond to their manifestation of kindness, and Masonic affection. Especially when it has become an established and recognized procedure for such purposes between the Grand Commanderies of the United States.

By such refusal we give others the impression that in order to preserve our isolated excellence, we are fond of rolling ourselves up like a porcupine with our bristles projecting towards our sister Commanderies and determined only to unbend our hauteur on great and momentous occasions.

The other objection, that if the representatives present matters of importance, we should not be able to give them "the attention which their importance demands," answers itself; for this Grand Commandery cannot afford to, and has no desire to neglect any really important business.

By confining the eligibility to the position of representative to members of this Grand Body, no question can be raised as to their presence at our meetings, or the suitableness of the appointments, and may be beneficial in securing the attendance of some of our older and much valued brethren.

Upon his recommendations the system was adopted, and the Grand Commander authorized to appoint Representatives to continue during his term of

office, and to receive those which may be sent from sister Grand Commanderies. In this connection we must acknowledge the high honor conferred upon the Chairman of this Committee, by being named the Grand Representative of this Grand Commandery, near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana.

R. E. Sir Nicholas Van Slyck, Grand Commander, and Sir Alfred F. Chapman, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

MICHIGAN.

The sixteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Michigan was held at Detroit on the fourth of June, 1872.

R. E. Sir Irving M. Smith, Grand Commander, in his address, urges the adoption of the resolution prohibiting all Knights Templar from lending any portion of their regalia to any one not a member of the Order, and then only to be used in an asylum or when appearing in public as Knights Templar.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir William P. Innis. He acknowledges our proceedings of 1871, and compliments the report of our predecessor.

R. E. Sir O. L. Spaulding was elected Grand Commander, and Sir William P. Innis re-elected Grand Recorder.

MINNESOTA.

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota was held at St. Paul on the twenty-fourth of June, 1872.

R. E. Sir George L. Otis, Grand Commander, in his address, reported the following decision :

On another occasion a candidate was duly elected to receive the orders, and thereafter objection was made by a member of the Commandery to his receiving the orders, solely on the ground that the candidate was reported to be an unbeliever in the Christian religion. I held that the objection could not prevail—not that an unbeliever in the Christian religion could be made a Templar Mason, but that a Knight Templar could not be an unbeliever in the Christian religion. If the candidate receives the orders of Knighthood, the question of his religious belief is set at rest forever.

We cannot agree with this doctrine. No man can be a true Templar unless he is a true Christian, and we should even go farther than that and insist upon his being a Trinitarian ; and we certainly do not think that the mere fact of a person taking upon himself the vows and obligations of a Knight Templar, is an evidence of his conversion to the Christian religion. If one has been avowedly an unbeliever in Christ before applying for the Orders of the Temple, an objection on that ground would be quite as tenable as the objection that a profane is an atheist would be prior to his initiation into the first degree in Masonry. The rules would seem to us to operate exactly alike in both cases, for if it is necessary that a man should not be made a Mason without he first express his faith in an Almighty Creator of heaven and earth, surely he should not be made a Templar without having first fairly professed his belief in the divinity of the Saviour of mankind.

The Grand Commander publishes General Order No. 3, with the following remarks :

I desire to call attention to a circular in regard to uniform, issued by M. E. Grand Master J. Q. A. Fellows, on the 30th of December last, and which will be read by the Grand Recorder. I am not aware that any innovation or change of the kind referred to has been practiced in this jurisdiction, but the suggestions are well timed and I commend them to the Knights in Minnesota.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir E. D. B. Porter, who notices our proceedings of 1872. He says that the resolution which was introduced into our Grand Commandery to repeal Article 10 of our by-laws, was adopted. If he will examine again, he will find that it was rejected, and by a very considerable vote. The difference is quite material, we think, to the fair fame of our Grand Commandery.

R. E. Sir Moses W. Getchell was elected Grand Commander, and Sir E. D. B. Porter re-elected Grand Recorder.

MISSISSIPPI.

The twelfth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Mississippi was held at Holly Springs, 28th January, 1872. Resolutions were introduced and adopted, suggesting to the Grand Encampment a change of the name of the Order of the Knights of the Red Cross to the Order of Knights of Jerusalem. The resolutions and the report of the Committee upon them are too long for quotation.

Sir P. M. Savory presented a very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, in which our proceedings of 1871 are fraternally noticed. The conclusion of our new confrere is so good that we copy it entire, and are glad to announce that he has been retained in his position, and hope to read many more equally interesting reports from his facile pen :

And now, Companion Sir Knights, our first Report on Correspondence is finished. How well the work has been performed is for you to determine. We have the satisfaction of knowing that we have *tried* to do our duty. That it is inferior to the majority of our Companion Reports, no one is more sensible than ourself; but in sending forth our *Alpha* we trust that the broad mantle of Knightly charity and courtesy will cover our many imperfections. It was with no ordinary feelings that we entered the arena of Correspondence. We felt that the position of Reporter was equal in responsibility to that of the illustrious Chief who presides over the deliberations of our Grand Conclave, and as we gazed on the scroll of the Mutual Admiration Association, we found thereon recorded the names of valiant and magnanimous Sir Knights, that in this honorable tourney of Foreign Correspondence, have won for themselves a fame as enduring as that of the early Templars; we beheld scarred and dented helmets of crested Knights, who wield their pens with the facile ease that Templars in days ago handled the battle axe and the lance, and the knowledge that they were to be our antagonists might well cause an older and more experienced craftsman than ourself to question the practicability of sending forth a novice to the field of combat.

We have studiously avoided a conflict with any of the Mutuals, believing that discretion in this case is the better part of valor, and having "done what we could," we return our *bloodless sword* to its scabbard, and willingly take our place as high private in the rank.

R. E. Sir George E. De Lap was elected Grand Commander, and Sir J. L. Power re-elected Grand Recorder.

MISSOURI.

The twelfth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State of Missouri was held at St. Louis, October 8th, 1872.

Sir Francis M. Tufts thus discourseth relative to visiting, and we agree with him in his conclusions :

Nor would we have you forsake your solemn feasts ; Masonry and rejoicing go hand in hand. We would not have you tend, by your convivialities to intemperance, even, but would have you enjoy for a time here the pleasures, and show the bright side of our Christian warfare.

Our great Exemplar turned water into wine on a feast day, and we would have in our feasts, as well as in our charities, something to which we might look for that which can best reanimate our valiant and magnanimous Order. We would have you celebrate those days which have always been held in great veneration by Knights of the Temple.

He thus speaks of our triennial gatherings :

Missouri and St. Louis inaugurated the magnificence, pageantry and pomp of our triennial gatherings, and Maryland and Baltimore nobly carried out the programme, the East surpassing, if that were possible, the hospitality and good cheer of their Mississippi Valley *fraters*, and the South catches the inspiration, and Louisiana and New Orleans will eclipse the splendor of the Valley and the Eastern Shore, only to have the cap-sheaf put on and the climax reached by California and San Francisco in eighteen hundred and seventy-seven.

Then Missouri will be bound by triple iron bands to her sister of the Pacific slope, and with her two and a half millions of population, will display the banners, plumes and helmets of her two and one-half thousands of Templars crossing the snow-capped peaks of the Sierras to participate in the festivities, and witness the glory of the land of gold and the grape.

And thus of the nomenclature of new Commanderies :

In granting one of these dispensations the question of the policy of naming a Masonic body after a living man, was carefully considered, and, although we are proud of the fame of our paragon of a Grand Recorder, and consider him the peer of any in the Masonic annals, and his renown as a Masonic writer and editor as great, and the extensive praise of his great achievements and accomplishments, as eminently known as they possibly could be made, and could not be enhanced by any honor of this kind, still I should have been inclined to grant their request, had it not been for Sir Gouley's own protestation of dissent. The difficulties in the way of changing a name thus given are almost insurmountable, and this alone should deter those seeking dispensation for a new Commandery, to take a nomenclature from distinguished Masons who are still on the sphere of action.

A report was received from the Grand Drill Master and Inspector, our old friend, Sir William H. Stone, in which he says that not having been called upon to render official duty, he concludes that the Sir Knights do not need any instruction ; and that no errors have presented themselves for correction. We trust that his office will be in the future, as it seems to have been in the past, according to his own showing, — superfluous.

A communication was received from the Most Puissant Grand Master of the Grand Council of Missouri, asking the Grand Commandery to memorialize the Grand Encampment of the United States to make the Cryptic Degrees a prerequisite to the Temple Orders, or to segregate the Red Cross Degree from the Orders of the Temple, and transfer it to the jurisdiction of Grand Councils ; which was referred to a committee, who reported that the magnitude of the in-

terests involved required that it should be referred to a special committee, with instructions to report at the next Annual Conclave, which course was adopted. It seems to us that this matter has been fully and finally settled, and there is no use to stir its dead bones any longer.

The Committee on Jurisprudence decided that a petition for the Orders or for membership, cannot be withdrawn after having been received and referred to a committee; which is the universal law on that subject. They also decided that a Commandery cannot compel one of its officers to serve who, having served his term in full, declines to be re-elected.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is again by our friend, Sir George Frank Gouley, in his usual thorough style. Our proceedings of 1872, with our name misspelled, are fraternally reviewed. We gather from his report the following intelligence relative to the state of the Order in England :

In our last report we referred to the unfortunate alliance made by the Grand Encampment of England, and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and Mark Masters of England, and what we then predicted has come to pass. The oldest and most powerful Grand Lodge of the world, in this age, viz: that of England, has expressed its solemn disapprobation of all entangling alliances, by the reception and entering upon its record the following, from the report of the Board of General Purposes: "That whilst this Grand Lodge recognizes the private right of every brother to belong to any extraneous Masonic organization he may choose, it as firmly forbids, now and at any future time, all brethren, while engaged as salaried officials under this Grand Lodge, to mix themselves up in any way with such bodies as the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, the Rites of Nustain and Memphis, the spurious orders of Rome and Constantine, the schismatic body styling itself the Grand Mark Lodge of England, or any other exterior Masonic organization whatever, (even that of the Order of Knights Templar, which is alone recognized by the articles of union), under the pain of immediate dismissal from employment by this Grand Lodge."

Here we have the sublime result of a sublime farce. The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of England had no more right to enter into entangling alliances with the Scotch Rite, than it had with the devil. She was already recognized by the "articles of union" by the Grand Lodge, and that she is now cut off and thrown beyond the outer walls of the Temple, serves her right; she has nothing but her own stupidity, whereby she was inveigled into this unholy alliance, to blame for this her present humiliated position. Her chivalry is prostrated to the dust. The grand old craft of England, in their represented majesty and strength have put the miserable pretensions of a lot of hybrid degrees outside the pale of recognition, and if the Templars were fools enough to make a bargain with them, whereby they shared the same fate, they have nobody to blame but themselves.

The sooner they can cut loose from that treaty the better it will be for them.

In agreeing with the very proper position of the Grand Commander of New York, that a Royal Arch Mason, having lost an arm or leg, is thereby deprived of further promotion in Masonry, meaning that he cannot take the Orders of the Temple, he comments upon the question as to what are the higher degrees, and very properly says :

As there is nothing "higher" in the ancient craft than the Lodge and the Royal Arch, as added by the Grand Lodge of England, therefore there can be nothing in it to justly characterize it as "lower" to anything in Masonry. For Templars to designate Lodges and Chapters as lower bodies, is to assume that Commanderies are *strictly Masonic*, which they are not, and never claimed

to be. A Royal Arch Mason is no more a Mason by becoming a Templar, than if he had joined the Pope's Zouaves, for the Christian Orders are semi-military and semi-religious, and all the Masonry there is in them is only the fact that none but Masons can be received as members. The same might be said of the 7th Regiment in case all its members were Masons, and as they would admit none others it might call the Lodge a lower body, whereas the Lodge would be the mother and creator of its membership. This misnomer of calling one higher and the other lower, is looked upon as an insult by the Craft at large, and has done the Order of the Temple more harm than any other cause, and we trust it will be entirely dropped by all, especially by those in authority.

Sir Gouley publishes General Order No. 3, and makes the following comments:

We most fully and emphatically agree with the Most Eminent Grand Master. He has taken the true course to reform our *national* processions, and change them from the appearance of a first-class circus on dress parade. The tendency of each Commandery to outrival some others in dress, is one of the causes of demoralization in our ranks. We have uniformity in work and ritual throughout the Grand Encampment, and also perfect uniformity in dress, except in a few jurisdictions which were exempted in 1862, because of previous provisions, and it is about time that the parti-colored uniform should be absolutely crushed out.

We saw enough at Baltimore to satisfy us that if every Grand and subordinate Commandery were allowed to dress up as suited the notions of each, in a few years it would be difficult to tell whether (in a grand national parade) the State bodies represented the Hospitalers, Maltese, Anglo Saxons or the Gauls. Some Commanderies turned out with enough gilt to set up a jewelry store; some with enough brass to make a Congressman; some with enough buttons to fill a girl's string a mile long; some turned out with smoking caps, and looked like division No. 1, Barber's Brigade; others, again, with swallow tail coats, and highly ornamented gauntlets, which (according to a Louisiana Past Grand Commander) reminded us of a bursted up ball party, carrying around embroidered chicken (entrails) on their wrists.

Now this is all wrong. We are either a semi-military organization, or we are not. If we are not, then we have no right to make a military display. If we are, then we must pay obedience to our supreme military authority and do the thing in a regular military style; and military processions without "uniformity" are little less than a *Mardi Gras* burlesque. We are glad that our M. E. Grand Master has grappled the uniform bull by the horns and decided (according to the law) that the Law shall be obeyed.

Relative to coats, we understand him to mean that the plain frock coat is the "regulation,"—if any have the single breasted or double breasted, or no breast at all—it means the kind of a "black frock coat" usually understood as in use among "gentlemen." We also understand that metal or braid bands around fatigue caps are out of order, as well as all other sorts of fancy trimmings not specified in the "regulations." The best thing in the world can be killed by being run in the ground, and Knights Templar parades can be not only run in the ground, but into the bottomless sea of contempt, unless they are controlled by a superior authority and uniformity. We have no doubt but that many Commanderies will raise a tempest in a tea pot, on account of this order, and they can boil over and scald a few tender skinned people in the meantime, but they can rest assured that in 1874 the Grand Master will be most overwhelmingly sustained at the next Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment.

If anybody does not like this "uniform" law of the Grand Encampment, then let them change it in that Grand body, but not violate the law. This is the long and the short of the thing. To disobey this order founded upon the law, is nothing less than disobedience of those orders which every Templar is sworn to obey.

Finally, our esteemed companion winds up with special orders and directions to Correspondents and Grand Recorders how they shall do their work ; and although they are rather imperative on his part, still the ideas are so good, we hope they may be followed :

Relative to printing proceedings we claim the right in the double capacity of Grand Recorder and Correspondent, to say a word, viz : that all quotations should be set up "solid" and all original matter set up "leaded." Quotation (" ") marks are not worth a row of pins to a reviewer who has to go through thousands of pages of printed matter in a few days. We miss from our table the statistical report of Sir Knight Drummond, of Maine. If we get it in time, we will add it.

We would also suggest to Grand Recorders, that they print "sub-heads" to all subject matter in the proceedings ; and furthermore, that they put the reports on correspondence in the "Appendix," by itself, and if the committee does not sign his name, then to sign it for him. We don't want to take up our time hunting through the proceedings to find out who submitted the report.

We cannot dismiss these proceedings without protesting to the Grand Recorder that one Sir George Frank Gouley, is, or was Grand Representative from the Grand Commandery of Louisiana near the Grand Commandery of Missouri, and that his name does not appear as such in the list of Foreign Representatives, in the proceedings before us. Will the proper correction please be made?

Sir Oren Root, Jr., was elected Grand Commander, and Sir George Frank Gouley, re-elected Grand Recorder.

NEBRASKA.

On the twenty-eighth of December, 1871, in pursuance of proper authority from the Grand Master, Representatives from Mount Calvary, Mount Olivet, Mount Carmel and Mount Moriah Commanderies, met at Omaha and organized, with the assistance of Sir T. S. Parvin, the Grand Commandery of Nebraska. Sir Harry Porter Denel was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Robert W. Furnas, elected Grand Recorder.

All of the Commanderies having a similar generic name, a resolution was adopted that every new Commandery in the jurisdiction should be required to select for its name one of the sacred mountains. One of our confreres has begged leave already to put in a notice that there was never such a place as *Mount Calvary*.

The first Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Nebraska, was held at Lincoln, 14th June, 1872. The proceedings are entirely of a local character. There is no report on Foreign Correspondence. A new Commandery was organized under the name of Mount Zion.

R. E. Sir Robert W. Furnas was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Thomas Alfred Creigh, elected Grand Recorder.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New Hampshire, was held at Concord, twenty-sixth of September, 1871. Sir William Barrett, Grand Commander, being unable to be present, his address was read by Sir John D. Patterson, Deputy Grand Commander, who presided.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir J. W. Fellows. He reviews our proceedings of 1871, and thus speaks of our having granted dispensations to confer the Orders in less than the usual time.

It may be that there was sufficient reason for the above dispensations, but especially in the instance of the four Companions from the country, it looks like a *very bad precedent*. The State of Louisiana is not so wide nor a journey from its remotest corner to New Orleans so burdensome that the rule should have been suspended and the Order conferred sooner than the usual time. The *precedent* is the unfortunate part of the case. The power lodged in the most judicious Grand Commander's hands may be safe, but when those very officers establish precedents and favor a practice, which can be cited by others less cautious as a defence to an unwarrantable exercise of the right, then there is wrong done, and the Order suffers.

The width of the State of Louisiana is something about which we imagine our learned brother knows very little, and it may perhaps enlighten him a great deal to be informed that we can write a letter to and get back an answer from him long before a letter from us can reach any part of the distant parishes of our State. Therefore, there having been at that time (1871), no Commandery of Templars outside of the city of New Orleans, it had always been the practice and still continues to be to allow dispensations of time between the reception of the petition for the Orders, and action being had upon it in cases of well known companions living in remote parts of the country, and who might be temporarily in the city attending to their private business, or called here to represent their brethren or companions in Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter. If our learned brother had examined still further into the address of our then Grand Commander, he would have found that there existed in all Louisiana, outside of the city of New Orleans but eighteen Knight Templars, and that for the benefit of the Order alone, it was necessary to increase our numbers, provided it could be done with valuable material. We trust this explanation will be satisfactory.

R. E. Sir John D. Patterson was re-elected Grand Commander, and Sir John A. Harris, re-elected Grand Recorder.

NEW JERSEY.

An emergent Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey, was held in Trenton, on the ninth of September, 1872, for the special purpose of conferring the Order of the Temple upon Sir William E. Pine, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons, of New Jersey—a very proper compliment to a very worthy and distinguished brother.

The fourteenth Annual Conclave was held at Trenton, on the tenth of September, 1872. Sir William W. Goodwyn, Grand Commander, presided and delivered a very carefully prepared address, from which we would gladly quote, had we time and space. We regret to learn that the Grand Commander met with serious misfortune during his term of service, which disabled him from active duty for a very long time.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir Thomas J. Corson, and is in his usual vein. The proceedings before us occupy exactly forty pages, while the report on Foreign Correspondence contains one hundred and fifty. We

have not the time to devote to this report that we would like, and must pass over it very cursorily. Our proceedings of 1872 are appropriately noticed, and our report very highly commended, on the ground that the principal part of it was written by Corson himself. Under the head of Illinois, he asks what the initials P. D. E. P. upon a shield signify? which is about the most unblushing confession of ignorance we have ever known our superlative Frater to commit. We hope nobody will tell him, for if they do, they might get sold like the boys at school. We are favored with some more of the product of that rhyming machine, which we trusted had been laid aside forever. We have too much respect for the treasury of our Grand Commandery to waste our space by quoting it; but we opine that some day our friend Hopkins, who is the subject of it, may possibly break somebody's head. A joke is a joke, but it might be pushed too far, the only doubt is, whether that would be possible for Corson!

The Grand Master's General Order No. 3 is quoted approvingly, as follows:

We have not time to discuss the matter at length, but we do have time to say that we are utterly surprised that any man who has taken upon himself the vows of a Templar, should for one moment think of resisting or evading the edicts of his Grand Commandery, or of the Grand Encampment. The Grand Master of the United States is merely carrying out the will of the Grand Encampment, whose servant he is. If he fails to ENFORCE the laws which the Grand Encampment enacts, he thereby proves himself unworthy to fill the high position which he occupies; and if we refuse to obey such laws as our governing bodies enact, we deserve to be excluded from the society of all true and courteous Knights. Disobedience in our Order should be punished with death—the death of degradation and expulsion. We have no sympathy whatever with those who evade and disobey the law. While a law is in existence, I will obey it; if it seems wrong and unjust to me, I will do all in my power to have it repealed; but while it stands upon the statute book I must obey it, or become forsworn and perjured. The Grand Master of the United States will find his hands strengthened by every true Knight in the land, in his efforts to enforce the laws of the Grand Encampment; and he owes it to the body whose executive officer he is; he owes it to his own self-respect; he owes it to the army of true and valiant Knights, who will support him, to see that all the laws of the Grand Encampment shall be fully and fearlessly enforced, let the consequences be what they may.

And here we must leave our genial friend. In this Grand Commandery of New Jersey, of which we are a member ourselves, we feel so much at home that we lay down its proceedings with great regret. But we cannot be with them always, and can only reiterate here to each and every one of our personal friends, whose names we see printed throughout the volume before us, the renewed assurance of our distinguished consideration.

R. E. Sir Jerome B. Borden was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Thomas J. Corson re-elected Grand Recorder.

NEW YORK.

The fifty-eighth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New York was held at Albany, 10th October, 1871. As soon as the Standing Committees were appointed, and before the Grand Commander's address could be read, Sir John W. Simons rose to a question of privilege and said:

R. E. Sir, with your permission and that of the Grand Commandery, I desire to interrupt the regular order of proceedings with a proposition somewhat out of order at this time, but which, when stated, I feel certain will command general approbation. I wish further to say that it is made at this time in order that, by its adoption, this Grand Commandery may stand on record as being not only willing, but anxious to do an act of mercy that will redound to its credit wherever there are hearts ready to sympathize with those who are in affliction.

We have met, R. E. Sir, at this time under most encouraging circumstances. Nearly every subordinate under our jurisdiction is already represented, and from every quarter comes the assurance of peace, harmony and prosperity. Every Grand Officer is at his post, and many of the old familiar faces are still with us. Death has passed us by, and the Giver of all good has caused his choicest blessings to rest upon us. Yet, as I speak, there is raging in one of the fairest cities of this Republic, such a calamity as the world has rarely, if ever known; the Garden City of Chicago is being laid in ashes by a fire beyond human control. Thousands, nay, tens of thousands, of her citizens are being rendered homeless and destitute. Among these there cannot fail to be very many bound to us by the ties of friendship, and the more sacred ties of our Order, and their cries of distress cannot fall upon our ears without touching our hearts and arousing an instant desire to extend the hand of relief. I propose, then, R. E. Sir, that it be referred to the Committee on Books and Accounts, to consider and report upon the propriety of appropriating from the funds of this Grand Commandery the sum of one thousand dollars, to be paid to R. E. Sir Vincent L. Hurlbut, of Chicago, and by him distributed to such of our suffering brethren as may stand most in need.

The recommendation was adopted, and afterwards the amount was increased to two thousand dollars.

The Grand Commander, R. E. Sir George Babcock, in his address, alludes to uniform, etc., and suggests a Past Commander's jewel in the form of a Maltese cross, with the passion cross and rays affixed thereon; which, it strikes us, would be a beautiful and appropriate emblem of office.

Sir. John W. Simons presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. He reviews our proceedings of 1871, and thus takes leave of our eminent frater, Sir James B. Scot:

We regret exceedingly the announcement at the close of this report, that Sir James withdraws from the honorable guild of Reporters. He has been most faithful and earnest in discharge of the duty imposed on the Knights of the quill, and has made a standard which even his respected successor will find it difficult to surpass. We part from him as from a friend whose genial face has brought light and pleasantness into our household, and we assure him, for ourself and the guild, that the memory of his labor will ever be pleasantly kept.

Our gallant Frater thus speaks of the festivities which have lately attended the triennial sessions of the Grand Encampment, and prophecies as follows:

One thing is certain. They are very expensive, and rest heavily, not only on the entertainers, but the guests, some of whom, as in this instance, traveled more than a thousand miles to be present. It seems quite clear that they might be diminished in extent, without affecting the objects sought to be attained, and the heavy burden of expense be thus diminished. As things are now arranged, it seems certain that the coming meetings will be considerably more quiet than their immediate predecessors. The distance to be traveled, and the less number of Commanderies in the Southern States, will make the New Orleans meeting considerably more tranquil than that at Baltimore, while the General Grand Chapter at Nashville will escape the confusion altogether; but

then when the Bodies come together again in some Northern or Western city, the smothered enthusiasm of six years will find vent in a jubilee equal to, if not surpassing, anything that has yet been done. Personally, we would be in favor of a much more modest style of welcome and entertainment, but we do not assume to be the custodian of other people's acts, and presume that when the time comes around we shall see what we shall see.

We trust to be able to disappoint him so far as the tranquility of the New Orleans meeting is concerned, and guarantee that *he* shall have a time here, if nobody else does.

A long report on uniform was, after a good deal of discussion, laid on the table.

R. E. Sir Robert N. Brown was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Robert McCoy re-elected Grand Recorder.

The fifty-ninth Annual Conclave was held at Norwich, 8th October, 1872. The Grand Commander thus refers to the edict of the Grand Master on the subject of uniform:

On the 21st of February, I promulgated, with my approval, the edict of the Grand Encampment and the order of the M. E. Grand Master, in reference to uniform. It affords me much pleasure to learn that they are generally received in the same spirit in which they were issued. I hope that the time is not far distant, when every Sir Knight within this jurisdiction will have fully complied with them.

I refrain from any discussion of this subject. There is no alternative but to yield obedience to the authority to which, in our obligations as Knights Templar, we have vowed allegiance.

Sir John W. Simons again presents the report on Foreign Correspondence. He notices our proceedings of 1872, and says our report was good, but brief, on account of our suffering from an attack of gout brought on by our visit to Baltimore. He is in error; the matter was the depletion of [the] Grand Commandery's treasury.

Reviewing the remarks of Sir Drummond, of Maine, as to Templar costume, he says:

It seems hardly necessary for us to add our testimony or approval to what has been so well said, that comes from so distinguished a source and that is incapable of refutation; nevertheless, we take occasion to say that, in this matter, the future well-being of the Order is more involved than many may be willing to admit. If our vows as Templars are binding in one particular, they are in all; and it is, therefore, as much a violation of them to set aside the edicts of the Grand Encampment in relation to uniform, as it would be to violate our vows of Christian Knighthood. On this point we take an immovable stand, and earnestly invite and urge every Frater to consider for himself how he shall justify his refusal to obey the law, or attempt to substitute his personal preferences for that which comes from his chosen superior, obedience to which he has promised under sanctions which it is to be hoped no one enlisted beneath the Templar banner can, for a moment, think of violating. We could write pages on this subject, and show the utter futility of claiming the old Kadosh uniform to be that of a Templar, but it seems to us needless to re-open a discussion closed by the logic of events and hermetically sealed by the law of the Grand Encampment to which we have all freely vowed obedience; and we trust, therefore, that so far as this jurisdiction is concerned, we shall continue in the future, as our record shows us to have been in the past, the first among our equals to render prompt and unquestioning obedience to the laws we have helped to make and to which we have sworn obedience.

In his review of *Mississippi* we find the following, which, to our minds, is a little worse than all the Masonic advertisements we have ever met with in these reports. Our Reverend and M. D. fraters long since hid their diminished heads, and Thirty-Thirds and Eighteenth knocked under when we had a Companion General Somebody in one of our reports. But he, too, must take a back seat and let our distinguished New York frater plead guilty to having committed the biggest thing out in the way of Masonic personal puffery :

The same Sir Knight offered a resolution, making *Simons' Book of the Commandery* the text-book for *Mississippi*, which was adopted. We have always thought that these *Mississippi* Knights had a vein of strong good sense in their composition, and now we know it.

We fully agree with the following remarks which occur in his review of the proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Ohio :

The same committee offered a report, which was agreed to, that when a candidate has been proposed and accepted for the orders, and before he has actually received any order, objection is made, then nothing further can be done until the objection is withdrawn or the objector cease to be a member of the Commandery.

A few years ago this was the general law, but one by one the brethren are coming to see its injustice and to change front. As, for instance, a candidate being proposed in a Commandery, and the ballot on his application being about to be taken, Sir A. B., in the exercise of his right as a member, when his turn comes, deposits a black ball, the candidate is declared rejected, and must wait as many months as the law prescribes before he can again apply ; but there is a term to the delay. Now, if, instead of using the black ball, Sir A. B. should wait till the ballot closed and the candidate had been declared elected, and then rise in his place and object, then the delay would be without a definite period, Sir A. B., living forty years, and continuing, or refusing to withdraw his objection, no reconsideration could take place. The question arises why the objection of a sitting member should be more potent than a black ball regularly cast at a ballot. We do not believe it is, and hold that the result in either case should be the same. If the objection be made at some subsequent Conclave, on the ground that the objector could not be present at the time the ballot was taken, there is nothing in that fact to show that the mere objection should outweigh the ballot. The decision above referred to is illogical and its effects unfair, and we trust that our Ohio fraters will reconsider it.

He thus kindly announces the position of all American Templars so far as the Grand Commandery of Virginia is concerned :

If an earnest desire to maintain the ranks unbroken, to do everything to make the position of Virginia comfortable, to promote the kindest and most fraternal feelings toward them, and to induce them to reciprocate, be pronouncing their doom—why then so. But, we aver, with a full knowledge of that whereof we speak, that not one member of the Grand Encampment voted to refuse, under any but the best and most friendly feelings, nor with any other view than that of thus convincing our Virginia Knights how ardently we desire to keep them in the family as gallant and true exemplars of all that is best and most to be admired in the tenets of our profession. We trust and believe that time and continual intercourse with the other Grand Commanderies will convince them of the wisdom contained in the suggestion of R. E. Sir McDaniel, that the "past should be buried in the eternal past;" and so, from every quarter, we extend to them hearts and hands, as the symbol of a new departure of lasting amity and union.

Sir Frank Lewis Stowell was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Robert McCoy re-elected Grand Recorder.

OHIO.

The thirteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, was held at Columbus, October 1st, 1872. R. E. Sir Enoch T. Carson made the following decisions :

An unaffiliated R. A. Mason is eligible to receive the orders of Masonic Knighthood, there being no by-law to the contrary.

A Royal Arch Mason having lost an arm, is not, thereby, disqualified from receiving the orders of Knighthood.

We unqualifiedly disagree with both, and particularly cannot imagine, for the life of us, how a man could be made a Templar who has lost an arm.

He thus speaks of General Order No. 3 :

I would call your attention to Order No. 3, issued by the G. Master of the G. Encampment of the U. S., under date of December 30th, 1871, on the subject of Knights Templar's dress. I fully concur in the Grand Master's interpretation of the law on this subject. I trust you will take some action in relation to this order, so as to bring the matter fully to the attention of the order in this State, in order that if there is even the tenderest budding towards innovation in dress, more especially in the way of elaboration or addition, that it may be nipped at once, while it is young and delicate, before it becomes hardened into a "landmark."

A beautiful jewel was prepared for presentation to the Past Grand Commanders, and an elegant illustration of it accompanies the proceedings. We will endeavor to describe it: A circular plate is imposed upon a Templar cross; in the centre of the plate is delineated the passion cross and rays; at the foot of the cross is a shield bearing the inscription "*Fides*," the sword and the *baton* of a Grand Commander signifying that at the conclusion of his term of office, a Grand Commander deposits his sword and shield and the insignia of his office at the foot of the cross, the emblem of his faith and hope in the future, and rests from his labors. Around the circular plate are the words "*Beatus ille qui procul negotus*," which signify "Happy is he who retires from toil."

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir William M. Cunningham, who reviews our proceedings of 1872. He thus comments upon our previously expressed opinion relative to the conferring of the Order of Red Cross in Councils of Royal and Select Masters of Canada; but we are not convinced that our position is incorrect:

The paternity of Cryptic Masonry in the United States and Canada, probably being as legitimate as that of the American system of the Orders of Knighthood, your committee fail to see the logic of our frater of Louisiana. Whilst Grand Commanderies and the Grand Encampment may or may not constitute the possession of the Council Degrees, a pre-requisite to the reception of the Orders of Knighthood, yet their refusal to do so, does not imply any refusal of recognition as a Masonic body. The A. . and A. . Scottish rite does not require the possession of other than the Symbolic Degrees as a pre-requisite for their grades; yet we have never learned that they neither affiliate with nor recognize the American Capitular, Cryptic or Templar system of Masonry. The pretense in vogue for a time that a Master Mason or a Grand Lodge of Masons as such did not know or recognize other Degrees or other bodies of Masons has, in the opinion of the writer, been too long exploded to be again renewed in another form. The Order of Red Cross is an incongruity in the Templar System, and belongs as legitimately and more appropriately to Cryptic Masonry than it does to the Order of the Temple. In this connection your committee

also believe that the value of the Templar Grade would be enhanced by the surrender of the Order of the Red Cross to any other legitimate body of Masons desiring it.

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented the following report, which was agreed to:

Your committee on Templar Jurisprudence, to whom Order No. 3 of M. E. J. Q. A. Fellows, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, relative to the dress of Knights Templar was referred, have had the same under consideration, and report that the Grand Encampment of the United States has full power to prescribe the dress to be worn by members of the Order of Knights Templar within their jurisdiction; and that the edict of the Grand Encampment of 1862, (published on pages 45 to 53 of the proceedings of that session), prescribes what the dress is; and that no material variation therefrom can be permitted until the Grand Encampment shall so order; and that an addition to the ornamentation or showy part of the dress is as much a variation from the authorized dress, and to be avoided as a leaving off of any part described and prescribed by the Edict referred to. The object of said Edict was to secure uniformity of dress, and any noticeable variation is not to be tolerated.

R. E. Sir Enoch T. Carson, Grand Commander, and Sir James Nesbitt, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The nineteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, was held at Reading, 11th June, 1872. The Grand Commander, R. E. Sir Charles M. Howell, announced the appointment of our friend Sir Charles E. Meyer, of Philadelphia, as Grand Recorder in place of Sir Alfred Creigh, resigned. He decides that there is no "adjourning" in any of the Masonic organizations; they close. We agree to this unless a Commandery is claimed to be a Masonic organization. If it is, then we say that it does not always close, but sometimes adjourns, and our authority for this is that we have always been taught so, and it has also been decided, as a learned friend at our elbow states, by Grand Master Hubbard. We have not had time to hunt up the decision, but doubtless it exists.* He also decides that a Sir Knight who has taken his demit from a Lodge or Chapter, forfeits his membership in the Commandery after being six months unaffiliated, with which we beg leave respectfully to disagree. We hold there is nothing in the Order, in the written or unwritten law which compels a Templar, in order to maintain his standing in the Commandery to forever maintain his membership in Lodge or Chapter, and we challenge the production of any authority for the foregoing position. But we do fully agree in the following very pleasing tribute to the banquet where we also were an honored guest:

If it was possible to draw other than parallels, I might refer particularly to one feature of that most gorgeous celebration, with which I, as your R. E. Grand Commander, and the officers of my command, were closely identified as honored and specially invited guests. Can those who were present soon forget the banquet given by Mary Commandery No. 36, stationed at Philadelphia, to the officers and members of the Grand Encampment of the United States, held at the Maryland Institute, Baltimore, on Tuesday evening, September 19, 1871? We would be indeed insensible to all those finer feelings that adorn us as men, did we not cherish in our heart of hearts the pleasant recollection of that memorable occasion.

* See decision of Grand Master Hubbard, 1866.—Proceedings of the General Grand Encampment, p. 304.

Language cannot describe the magnificence of the entertainment, so perfect in all its parts; nor can words reëcho the sentiment of love and good feeling which found a place in every heart within those decorated walls.

Our friend, Very Eminent Sir James H. Hopkins, Deputy Grand Master of the United States, being overpowered with the duties of that high office, was unable to attend to his business as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and the duty is performed by Sir Grant Weidman in a very pleasing and courteous manner. Our proceedings do not seem to have been received and are not noticed.

Sir Edward Masson asked permission to retain the shoulder straps of the Grand Marshal, which he has been wearing for the past few years, which was granted. We would like a description of those shoulder straps, and also an intimation as to what the office of Grand Marshal is, as we cannot find it laid down among the officers of a Grand Commandery provided for by the Constitution of the Grand Encampment.

Sir Robert H. Pattison, Grand Prelate, delivered a beautiful address, from which we regret we are unable to quote.

R. E. Sir Geter C. Shidle was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Charles E. Meyer, re-elected Grand Recorder.

TENNESSEE.

The tenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee, was held at Lebanon, 14th May, 1872.

Sir George S. Blackie, Grand Commander, in his address, thus alludes to the displays made at the triennial meetings of the Grand Encampment:

Although I fear the tendency of such magnificent displays is to lead to an extravagance which is the forerunner of effeminacy and decay, and am in favor of a more modest style of welcome, yet I do not presume to judge of the actions of others. I trust, however, that the good sense of the Order will prevent an attempt to eclipse the magnificence of the Baltimore reception, and that the triennial gatherings will gradually decline until they are remarkable rather for talent in the dispatch of business than for glitter and display. I think the tendency of the Order in America since October is rather to curb the spirit of display, and to devote itself to deeds of more exalted usefulness. The lessons of charity taught them by the sufferings of their Fraters in Chicago have not been without their influence on the whole character of the Order.

Many public banquets were given, but my bad health prevented my attending any, save that tendered by Mary Commandery, of Philadelphia, to the Grand Body. It was a scene which can hardly be forgotten.

Our frater thus beautifully closes a very admirable and elaborate address:

Some say that the age of Chivalry is passed, that the spirit of Romance is dead. But they are wrong. The age of Chivalry is never past, so long as there is a wrong unredressed on earth, and a man or woman left to say, "I will redress that wrong, or perish in the attempt." The age of Chivalry is never past, so long as we have faith enough in God and Christ to say "God will help me to redress that wrong, or if not me, those that come after me." The spirit of Romance will never die, as long as there is a man left to say that the world might and can be better, fairer, wiser, happier in all things than it is now, that God's will will be done on earth. "Thy will be done on earth" is the utterance of the prayer we have by his instruction pronounced around the altar. He who bade us ask that boon for ourselves and generations yet unborn was "VERY GOD OF VERY GOD." Do you think that He would have bidden us ask a blessing which He knew would never come?

A resolution was adopted that General Order No. 8 be published for information, and a strict conformity thereto enjoined.

Grand Commander Blackie furnishes the report on Foreign Correspondence, in his usual excellent style, and cordially notices our proceedings for 1871. He thinks that because we have a Grand Master resident in the State, the number of the Knights should be increased. We hope that it may be soon, but do not want the increase to come upon us too quickly.

R. E. Sir Joseph B. Palmer, was elected Grand Commander, and Sir John Frizzell, re-elected Grand Recorder.

VERMONT.

The grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Vermont, was held at Burlington, 11th June, 1872. R. E. Sir Russell F. Taft, Grand Commander, announces the issuance of a dispensation for a new Commandery named after himself. Although he acknowledges that it is wrong to name Masonic bodies after living men, he calmly admits "that I had not brass enough in my countenance to refuse their modest request." We feel sorry for the Grand Commander, and did we not know him as well as we do, we should have been suspicious of the veracity of the whole affirmation.

Our friend refused a re-election to his high office, and R. E. Sir Joseph L. Perkins was elected Grand Commander, and Sir W. H. S. Whitcomb, elected Grand Recorder.

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence, and the proceedings of the Grand Commandery were confined to local business.

VIRGINIA.

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Virginia was held at Richmond, on the 14th of December, 1871. R. E. Sir John Robin McDaniel, Grand Commander, in his address, alludes to the action of the Grand Encampment in refusing the petition of Virginia to withdraw from that body, and for himself personally, rejoices in the result. We hope our Virginia fraters, will be soon reconciled, to remain among us.

Sir G. W. Dame submitted a very readable report on Foreign Correspondence, in which our proceedings of 1871 are fraternally reviewed. A large portion is devoted to a review of the last report of Sir Knight Scot, in which most of his opinions are approvingly quoted, and none with disapprobation. The Sir Knight appeals to the Grand Commandery of Louisiana not to accept the resignation of Sir James B. Scot; "his good sense, his sound discretion and his interest in the cause, point him out as admirably qualified for the position he now fills with so much credit to himself and honor to the order."

R. E. Sir John Robin McDaniel, Grand Commander, and Sir John Dove, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

WISCONSIN.

The thirteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin, was held at Milwaukee, 17th January, 1872; and its proceedings come to us in

a beautifully printed volume, illustrated with a very finely engraved likeness of Past Grand Master Palmer.

R. E. A. V. H. Carpenter, Grand Commander, delivered a very lengthy and exhaustive address, from which we would gladly quote, but we must hurry to our conclusions.

Sir John Turner presented a very valuable report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he very kindly reviews our proceedings of 1871.

A resolution was adopted to hold three schools of instruction each year, at different places within the State, and require the elective officers of each Commandery to attend the school to which their Commandery is attached. This, we think, will be productive of good results, and is far better than the system of grand lecturers.

R. E. Sir A. V. H. Carpenter, Grand Commander, and Sir William T. Palmer, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

CONCLUSION.

The state of the Order of Knights Templar, as fully exhibited by the transactions which we have reviewed, is most satisfactory, and proves its popularity and its usefulness. It is also shown very clearly that the military characteristic is asserting and attaining an important influence, and that henceforth, at least, we will be to all intents and purposes, Masons in the Commandery, but soldiers in the street; soldiers in the broad popular sense of the word so far as the profane lookers-on are concerned, although to our minds merely symbolic "soldiers of the cross." This tendency is felt in the universal determination to enforce the acquisition of military movements by frequent drills, and by the desire of public display and fraternal reunions wherein friendly emulation has full scope and ample reward.

Nor can we see why this tendency should be repressed, or what injury to our Holy Order can result from it; the arguments that serve so well in Lodge and Chapter, have no bearing here; we are something more than Masons, and are not so closely connected with the Masonic fraternity as to bring any disrepute upon it by reason of our public displays, or by the exhibition of our semi-military costume; we are not only professed but professing Christians, rejoicing in our belief, and have for an avowed object to proclaim and maintain it throughout the universe; whatever there may be of secrecy in our institution is by no means Masonic, but belongs solely to ourselves, and we claim nothing from any one who does not belong to our own body.

Being then, free and independent, we must be governed by our own laws, and not by those of any other organization, and those laws, framed as they are by ourselves, must be adapted to our own wants, our own prosperity, and our own advancement, and we are free to say that the "Banner of the Cross" cannot be too often or too proudly displayed to the view of the world, upheld by the hands of those who have sworn to defend it.

Never before has our beloved Order been so flourishing, so increasing, so united: from every quarter come the glad tidings of universal peace and prosperity, and in no manner has this been ever more fully and plainly revealed,

than by the unanimous acquiescence in the order of the Grand Master relative to uniform; not a single Grand Commandery that we have heard from has made any objection to it, although many may have been taken by surprise; almost all have ordered its strict and rigid execution, many have received it with the most unqualified marks of approval, and rejoicings in its issuance, and but one hesitates as to what action it will take upon it; this we are satisfied cannot last much longer, and that before the next Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, every Knight Templar will be in harmony upon this subject, as they are now upon every other concerning the good of the Order.

The only opposition that was ever made against Order No. 3, had its origin in one or two insignificant so-called Masonic magazines, and if any considerable number of Knights could possibly have been influenced by their criticisms and appeals for open resistance, they must certainly now return cheerfully to their duty, in view of the overwhelming opinions in its favor which have been expressed by every one of the Grand Commanderies.

We cannot omit expressing the great pleasure we have experienced in the preparation of this Report, our thanks for the kind attention we have met from all our fellows, and the hope that for many succeeding years we shall renew our fraternal greetings.

Courteously submitted,

JOSEPH P. HORNOR,
For the Committee.

The Special Committee on the address of the R. E. Grand Commander, submitted the following report, which was received, and the annexed resolutions adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee upon Grand Commander's address, respectfully submit the following resolutions as their report, and recommend their adoption:

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Commander's Address as relates to Templar Drill, be referred to a Special Committee of three, with instructions to report to this Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the part of the Address relative to Girard Commandery, U.D., be referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the Grand Commander, as a Committee on Commanderies, U. D.

Resolved, That the part of the Address relative to the appointment and reception of Grand Representatives, from sister Grand Commanderies, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and that the Grand Representative presenting duly attested credentials, be received with due honors during the present Conclave of this Grand Body.

Courteously submitted,

W. R. WHITAKER,
SAM'L M. TODD,
JOHN A. STEVENSON.

Sir Knights Sam'l M. Todd, J. G. Fleming and Geo. Baldey, were appointed the Committee under the first resolution, and Sir Knights Joseph H. DeGrange, Hugh Breen and John H. Clarke, under the second resolution.

The Committee to whom was referred the documents and petition for a Charter of Girard Commandery, U. D., made the following report, which was received, and the appendant resolution adopted :

NEW ORLEANS, February 14, 1878.

To the R. E. G. Commander and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS—The Committee to whom was referred the papers and documents of Girard Commandery, U. D., and their application for a charter, fraternally beg to report : That they have examined the minutes and all necessary documents, and found the same correct, and cheerfully recommend that a charter do issue to them, and in view thereof append the following resolution :

Resolved, That a Charter be granted to Girard Commandery, U. D., under the name and style of Girard Commandery No. 4.

Fraternally,

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,
HUGH BREEN,
JOHN H. CLARKE.

The R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Richard Lambert, vacated his station, and V. E. Deputy Grand Commander Sir William R. Whitaker, assumed the same.

Past R. E. Grand Commander, Sir John A. Stevenson, then formally introduced to the Grand Commandery the following named Sir Knights as the Grand Representatives of the following Grand Commanderies, near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, and they were received and welcomed as such with knightly honors, viz :

Sir Joseph P. Hornor, of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Sir Henry R. Swasey, of Nebraska.

Sir Joseph H. DeGrange, of Mississippi.

Sir Richard Lambert, of Indiana.

Sir Gustavus Sontag, of Illinois.

Sir James C. Batchelor, of Alabama.

The Committee on Uniform and Drill, submitted the following report, which was received and the resolution unanimously adopted :

The Committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Commander's Address, in reference to Uniform and Equipments, and to the subject of Drill, respectfully

R E P O R T.

That they deem it imperatively necessary to adopt a regulation, requiring the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction to fully uniform and equip themselves, in accordance with the law of the Grand Encampment, and of this Grand Commandery.

That there exists an absolute necessity for improvement in the drill and exercises of the Commanderies of this jurisdiction, and which have, heretofore, been too much neglected.

They recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, as embodying the suggestions of the R. E. Grand Commander :

1st, *Resolved*, That the Commanderies of this jurisdiction be instructed to require their members to fully uniform and equip themselves, with the least possible delay, and, certainly, before the next Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery, under penalty of not being permitted to participate or take part in the meetings or work of any Commandery of this jurisdiction.

2d, *Resolved*, That the R. E. Grand Commander be requested to call together the Sir Knights, members of Commanderies in New Orleans, for drill and instruction, under his supervision, at least once in each month, and as much oftener as he may consider necessary.

Courteously submitted,

SAM'L M. TODD,
JOHN G. FLEMING,
GEO. BALDEY.

Sir J. H. DeGrange offered the following, which was adopted, and Sir Knights Samuel M. Todd and Joseph P. Hornor appointed said Committee :

Resolved, That a Special Committee of three be appointed, of which the R. E. Grand Commander shall be chairman, whose duty it shall be to select a manual of instruction and drill for use in this jurisdiction ; the said Committee to report to R. E. Grand Commander—which selection, on his approval, he shall make known by a general order.

The resolution offered by Sir George Baldey at the last Annual Grand Conclave, to repeal Article 10 of the By-Laws of the Grand Commandery, was called up, and, on being put to vote, the same was lost.

Sir Knight W. R. Whitaker, gave notice that he would renew the motion to repeal Article 10 of the By-Laws at the next Annual Grand Conclave.

The Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, Sir Knights G. Baldey and Z. M. Pike acting as tellers, with the following result :

SIR JOSEPH HENRY DeGRANGE.....*R. E. Grand Commander.*
 SIR HUGH BREEN*V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.*
 SIR JOHN HAWLEY CLARKE.....*V. E. Grand Generalissimo.*
 SIR JOHN GRAHAM FLEMING*V. E. Grand Captain General.*
 SIR JOHN CHAUNCEY CARPENTER...*V. E. Grand Prelate.*
 SIR WILLIAM LEWIS STANFORD.....*V. E. Senior Warden.*
 SIR ISAAC WATTS HOMAN*V. E. Grand Junior Warden.*
 SIR HENRY PEAT BUCKLEY*V. E. Grand Treasurer.*
 SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....*V. E. Grand Recorder.*

The R. E. Grand Commander elect announced the appointment of the following officers :

SIR GEORGE BALDEY.....*E. Grand Standard Bearer.*
 SIR ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE..*E. Grand Sword Bearer.*
 SIR RUFUS LEWIS BRUCE.....*E. Grand Warden.*
 SIR RAYMOND STEPHEN BURK.....*E. Grand Captain of the Guards.*

Sir Samuel M. Todd, P. R. E. Grand Commander, with the assistance of Sir Richard Lambert, P. R. E. Grand Commander, then proceeded to and did install the Grand Officers in Ample and Solemn Form.

On motion of R. E. Sir Richard Lambert, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies, and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Grand Commander, for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect, and that fifty copies of the proceedings be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Correspondence.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated to E. Sir Knight Grand Recorder, and five dollars to E. Sir Knight Grand Captain of the Guards, for services rendered.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed Sirs Joseph P. Hornor and Wm. R. Whitaker, Committee on Correspondence.

No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN and KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next Annual Conclave, on Friday, Feb. 13th, A. D. 1874, A. O. 756.



JOSEPH H. DeGRANGE,
Grand Commander.

ATTEST :

G. SONTAG,
Grand Recorder.

ANNUAL RETURNS

OF

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

FOR THE YEAR 1872.

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

Original Charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York, May 4th, A. D. 1816,
A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th,
A. D. 1844.

OFFICERS FOR 1878.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sir I. W. Homan.....E. C. | Sir Hugh Breen.....Treasurer. |
| " John A. Peel.....G. | " M. A. Calongne.....Recorder. |
| " John Kellett.....C. G. | " J. B. Chandler.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " J. C. Carpenter.....Prelate. | " J. Olle.....Sword Bearer. |
| " S. B. Haggart.....Sen. Warden. | " T. A. Bartlette.....Warder. |
| " G. I. Pinckard.....Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire.....Sent. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| T. A. Bartlette, | M. A. Calongne, | Richard Lambert, P. G. C., |
| Hugh Breen, D. G. C., | James Stafford, | S. Hopkins, Jr. |
| John G. Fleming, G. C. G., | F. W. Delesdernier, | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Allabaugh, J. R. | Coyle, W. G. | Ivens, E. M. | Richard, J. D. |
| Annan, A. | Crawford, J. D. | Isaacson, A. H. | Russell, Berry |
| Allston, Sam | Custer, A. B. | Jones, F. A. | Soule, George |
| Barnes, J. S. | Donella, O. J. | Johnson, Geo. | Scott, John K. |
| Benedict, A. W. | Daussat, J. L. | Kells, Chas. E. | Starr, William |
| Bruns, H. C. | Duncan, H. C. | Knapp, F. H. | Skardon, A. W. |
| Barker, P. A. | Durand, J. H. | Keenan, Pat | Sterling, R. G. |
| Burden, Thomas | Ellsworth, O. | Lafon, René | Stanten, W. C. |
| Baker, John | Ewell, Wm. M. | McDuff, Wm. | Sweeney, James |
| Barksdale, E. J. | Furneaux, Jas. | Melloch, E. | Stafford, I. C. |
| Brown, H. C. | Fisher, J. A. G. | Mullan, H. J. | Stewart, David |
| Buchanan, H. | Garrett, A. C. | Martin, Angel | Sheehan, Thos. |
| Carter, J. H. | Harvey, J. H. | Mayo, Claudius | Thomas, Charles |
| Cox, William | Heron, A. C. | O'Meallie, H. M. | Viosca, J., Sr. |
| Cage, D. S. | Hillman, A. | Ochiglevich, J. | Williams, Peter |
| Constantini, F. | Herwig, J. L. | O'Dowd, J. | Wolverton, N. W. |
| Clark, John | Herwig, P. F. | Panzer, S. H. | White, Jona C. |
| Cain, L. P. | Hart, L. | Redon, O. M. | Wells, W. H. |
| Cassidy, Henry | Hinton, Isaac T. | Riverra, P. Nap | Young, John, Jr. |
| Cleveland, W. F. | Hall, G. L. | Rooney, John | Zeigler, Joseph |
| Czarnowski, Oscar | Hall, S. R. | Rice, Felix | Total, 100. |

Orders Conferred—J. H. Durand, R. G. Sterling, W. C. Stanton, James Sweeney.

Affiliated—John O. Carpenter.

Died—Geo. H. Clarke, Wm. McCulloch, P. Carraher, Thos. J. Beck.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 25th, A. D. 1851, A. O. 733,
Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

OFFICERS FOR 1873.

| | |
|---|--|
| Sir Joseph H. DeGrange.....E. C. | Sir Samuel M. Todd.....Treasurer. |
| " Rufus L. Bruce.....G. | " Gustavus Sontag.....Recorder. |
| " A. B. Small .....C. G. | " H. Hamburger.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " Zeb. M. Pike .....Prelate. | " H. Pierson.....Sword Bearer. |
| " Robert Strong.....Sen. Warden. | " T. Carroll.....Warder. |
| " Thos. F. Patton.....Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire (not a memb'r)...Sent. |
| Sirs H. Cree, J. A. Pickert, C. McR. Selph..... | Guards, |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| W. W. Johnson, | John B. Robertson, | Henry R. Swasey, P. G. C. |
| Samuel M. Todd, P. G. C. | James B. Scot, P. D. G. C. | |
| J. A. Stevenson, P. G. C. | Jos. H. DeGrange, G. C. | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Addison, Ashford | Dunn, James B. | McNeil, Alexander | Schmidt, Chas. |
| Austin, R. S. | Eyrich, A. | Mitchell, D. F. | Smith, John C. |
| Brodc, F. A. | Fuller, Charles A. | Murdock, L. T. | Schilling, H. T. |
| Buckley, H. P. | Francis, M. W. | Manning, W. H. | Santini, Joseph |
| Blessey, E. | Foote, Alexis S. | McGuffy, H. | Sheldon, A. D. |
| Burke, E. A. | FitzGerald, W. E. | Morris, J. L. | Thayer, F. N. |
| Bull, Geo | Fellowes, E. T. | Mandal, Peter C. | Trippett, R. S. |
| Bell, Wm. Robert | Gale, James | McWilliams, J. G. | Turek, J. R. |
| Batchelor, Jas. C. | Gordy, John C. | Macon, Thos. L. | Todd, James |
| Bothick, Thos. W. | Glennon, Robert | Norris, J. W. | VanHorn, T. D. |
| Barnett, Edward | Garner, George G. | Newton, C. W. | Williams, H. |
| Bennett, Phillip | Hasam, Thomas | O'Beirne, W. J. | Wilson, J. H. |
| Boning, George | Hawkins, John | Pike, Wm. S. | Weber, William |
| Carter, Howell | Holyland, F. | Perkins, Wm. M. | Wang, Fred |
| Carey, J. T. | Ittmann, G. B. | Pearce, J. W. | Wrede, J W |
| Carnahan, H. S. | Jones, John W. | Peck, D. W. C. | Ward, John |
| Carter, Albert G. | Kent, Amos | Ramelli, D. S. | Webster, L. J. |
| Clarke, Joseph D. | Lane, Lafayette N. | Race, George W. | Wynne, O. E. |
| Craig, Emmet D. | Lunn, Thomas | Robson, William | Wilner, J. C. |
| Chase, C. H. | Lusse Caspar | Richardson, J. G. | Yorke, E. A. |
| Darden, R. G. | Low, James | Selby, Geo. | Total, 102. |

Orders Conferred—R. S. Austen, E. A. Burke, Harvey Cree, H. S. Carnahan. J. T. Carey, Howell Carter, George B. Ittmann, J. L. Morris,* W. J. O'Beirne, Caspar Lusse, James Low, D. W. C. Peck, J. A. Pickert, C. McR. Selph, J. H. Wilson.

Affiliated—Fred. A. Brode.

Struck from the Roll—J. O. Amesbury, J. M. Bockius, W. G. Betterton, Wm. Beattie, S. B. Buckner, G. H. King, W. J. Mason, Wm. Maybin, R. T. Rhinehart, Wm. Whann, Jr.

*Erroneously reported last year.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, September, 4th, A. D. 1862.

A. O. 744.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

OFFICERS FOR 1873.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Sir John H. Clarke..... | E. C. | Sir Andrew Hero, Jr..... | Treasurer. |
| " N. Burbank..... | G. | " E. E. Adams..... | Recorder. |
| " John W. Madden..... | C. G. | " J. Gray..... | Stan. Bearer. |
| " George Baldey..... | Prelate. | " B. R. Lawrence..... | Sword Bearer. |
| " W. G. James..... | Sen. Warden. | " Edward Baker..... | Warder. |
| " Eug. Tisdale..... | Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire (not a memb'r) | Sent. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| J. Q. A. Fellows, P. G. C. | Joseph P. Hornor, P. G. C. | Thomas Cripps, |
| W. C. Driver, | William R. Whittaker, P. D. G. C. | Geo. Baldey. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Andrews, E. B. | Doane, Harmon, | Lusse, Henry | Robinson, Wm. M. |
| Abbott, Geo. H. | Davison, C. W. | Murphy, Wm. E. | Robinson, N. T. N. |
| Baldwin, Albert | Dunlap, J. G. | Montgomery, D. | Rusha, E. M. |
| Baxter, J. B. D. | Estlin, Charles T. | Moon, W. H. | Remick, F. C. |
| Benedict, W. S. | Fromeyer, W. H. | Miller, Nick. | Stanford, W. L. |
| Bullitt, Cuthbert | Friend, Thomas | McGinnis, J. J. | Shaw, Alfred |
| Burk, R. S. | Gardner, L. H. | Morrison, D. C. | Seymour, Sam'l J. |
| Billings, A. E. | Gilman, S. H. | Munroe, S. F. | Sizer, Geo. W. |
| Bovard, Rob't D. | Girard, M. E. | Myers, F. E. | Scott, Chas. A. |
| Chamberlain, Geo. | Hays, H. T. | Nash, Charles T. | Slaight, H. L. |
| Crawford, Levy S. | Hughes, A. de B. | Pilcher, Mason, | Stockdale, S. A. |
| Campbell, Benj. | Harris, J. L. | Parsons, J. P. | Stewart, W. P. |
| Carroll, R. W. W. | Hildreth, D. M. | Parle, A. | Staples, Geo. |
| Collins, John F. | Hunt, C. S. | Porter, C. S. D. | Sypher, A. J. |
| Cosbey, John J. | Johnson, W. A. | Potter, Jotham | Trimble, J. E. |
| Curry, E. S. | Keys, Nelson, | Rice, Chas. S. | Watson, Robert |
| Cooper, J. B. | Leacock, W. T. | Reid, Edw. | Walsh, P. P. |
| Cooper, William | Lennon, Jos. C. | Rodgers, T. J. | Wright, S. B. |

Total, 90.

Orders Conferred—Ed. Baker, J. B. Cooper, C. W. Davison, J. Gray, A. Hero, Jr., H. Lusse, B. R. Lawrence, F. E. Myers, C. S. D. Porter, A. J. Sypher, J. E. Trimble.

Demitted—G. A. Hall.

Suspended—W. Y. At Lee, Geo. A. Blake, H. D. Pierce.

GIRARD COMMANDERY, U. D.

Opelousas, St. Landry Parish.

(Charter granted February 14th, 1873, No. 4.)

OFFICERS.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Sir Michel Elbert Girard..... | E. C. |
| Sir Claudius Mayo..... | G. |
| Sir Jonathan Levi Morris..... | C. G. |

MEMBERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Bodemuller, Karl Hermann | Lejeune, Louis | Pulforel, George |
| Crawford, William | Lewis, Edward Taylor | Ray, James |
| Dugat, Rosemond | May, Malachi Gould | Robertson, Wm. Allen |
| Gantt, Elbert | Mudd, Francis Sterling | Richard, Jos. Dorestan |
| Jackson, James William | | Total, 16. |

Orders Conferred—Elbert Gantt, Wm. Crawford, Malachi G. May, Karl H. Bodemuller, James W. Jackson, Francis S. Mudd, William A. Robertson.

List of Elective Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders. OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

| YEAR | R. E. G. COMMANDER. | V. E. D. G. COMMANDER. | E. G. GENERALISSIMO. | E. GRAND CAPT. GENERAL. | E. G. PRELATE. | E. GRAND TREASURER. | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
|------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1864 | Hy. Rufus Swasey | J. Q. A. Fellows. | Fulgence Ricau*. | Willis P. Coleman* | John H. Holland* | Hosea Edwards* | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1865 | J. Q. A. Fellows. | S. M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau*. | Willis P. Coleman* | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey..... | Joseph P. Hornor. |
| 1866 | Sam'l M. Todd... | Fulgence Ricau*. | Joseph P. Hornor | M. A. Calongne... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey..... | G. Sontag. |
| 1867 | Fulgence Ricau*. | Fulgence Ricau*. | Joseph P. Hornor | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey..... | G. Sontag. |
| 1868 | Fulgence Ricau*. | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson... | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey..... | Alfred E. Billings. |
| 1869 | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson... | W. R. Whitaker. | M. A. Calongne..... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey..... | G. Sontag. |
| 1870 | Joseph P. Hornor | James B. Scott.... | T. A. Bartlette... | Jas. E. McBeth*.... | H. R. Swasey..... | Emanuel Blessey..... | G. Sontag. |
| 1871 | Jno. A. Stevenson | Richard Lambert | W. R. Whitaker. | Hugh Breen..... | H. C. Duncan..... | Emanuel Blessey..... | G. Sontag. |
| 1872 | Richard Lambert | W. R. Whitaker. | Hugh Breen..... | Jos. H. DeGrange.. | J. C. Carpenter... | Emanuel Blessey..... | G. Sontag. |
| 1873 | J. H. DeGrange.. | Hugh Breen..... | John H. Clarke... | John G. Fleming... | J. C. Carpenter... | H. P. Buckley..... | G. Sontag. |

* Dead.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF COMMANDERIES UNDER THIS JURISDICTION.

| NAME OF COMMANDERY. | Number. | WHERE LOCATED. | E. COMMANDER. | RECORDER. | No. of members. | Orders conferred | Affiliated. | Demitted. | Died. | Suspended. | Expelled. | Struck from roll. | Reinstated. |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|-------|------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|
| Indivisible Friends..... | 1 | New Orleans..... | I. W. Homan..... | M. A. Calongne..... | 100 | 4 | 1 | ..... | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Jacques de Molay..... | 2 | "..... | J. H. DeGrange.... | G. Sontag..... | 102 | 15 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 10 | ..... | ..... |
| Orleans..... | 3 | "..... | J. H. Clarke..... | E. E. Adams..... | 90 | 11 | ..... | 1 | ..... | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Girard..... | 4 | Opelousas..... | M. E. Girard..... | ..... | 16 | 7 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 10 | ..... |
| | | | | | 308 | 37 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

*Of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, near other Grand Com
manderies.*

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alabama..... | Sir Frank R. Jarvis. |
| California..... | Sir Isaac S. Titus. |
| Georgia..... | Sir Robert L. Roddy. |
| Illinois..... | Sir Harmon G. Reynolds. |
| Indiana..... | Sir E. D. Palmer. |
| Iowa..... | Sir Edward A. Guilbert. |
| Kentucky..... | Sir William C. Munger. |
| Kansas..... | Sir John M. Price. |
| Maine..... | Sir Josiah H. Drummmond. |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island..... | Sir William W. Baker. |
| Missouri..... | Sir George Frank Gouley. |
| Mississippi..... | Sir E. George DeLap. |
| Minnesota..... | Sir A. E. Ames. |
| Michigan..... | Sir E. I. Garfield. |
| New York..... | Sir Ezra S. Barnum. |
| New Jersey..... | Sir Thomas J. Corson. |
| Nebraska..... | Sir Charles W. Seymour. |
| Pennsylvania..... | Sir James H. Hopkins. |
| Tennessee..... | Sir A. D. Sears. |
| Texas..... | Sir L. M. Oppenheimer. |
| Wisconsin..... | Sir Henry L. Palmer. |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

*Of other Grand Commanderies, near the Grand Commandery of
Louisiana.*

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alabama | Sir James C. Batchelor. |
| California..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Georgia..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Illinois..... | Sir Gustavus Sontag. |
| Indiana..... | Sir Richard Lambert. |
| Kentucky..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Kansas..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows |
| Maine..... | Sir James B. Scot. |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Missouri..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Mississippi..... | Sir Joseph H. De Grange. |
| Minnesota..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| New York..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| New Jersey..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Nebraska..... | Sir Henry R. Swasey. |
| Pennsylvania..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Tennessee.... | Sir James C. Batchelor. |
| Vermont..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Wisconsin..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |

REGISTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

| S T A T E . | DATE OF ORGANIZAT'N | GRAND COMMANDER. | RESIDENCE. | GRAND RECORDER. | RESIDENCE. |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| ALABAMA..... | December 1, 1860..... | Joseph H. Johnson .. | Talladega..... | Daniel Sayre..... | Montgomery. |
| ARKANSAS..... | March 25, 1872..... | Luke E. Barber..... | Little Rock.... | John W. Rison..... | Little Rock .. |
| CALIFORNIA..... | August 10, 1858..... | Wm. W. Traylor..... | San Francisco .. | Charles L. Wiggins | San Francisco |
| CONNECTICUT..... | September 13, 1827 .. | Sereno S. Thomas..... | New Haven..... | John W. Stedman... | Norwich..... |
| GEORGIA..... | April, 18..... | Allen S. Cutts..... | Americus..... | Chas. R. Armstrong... | Macon |
| ILLINOIS..... | October 27, 1857..... | Daniel Dustin..... | Sycamore..... | James H. Miles..... | Chicago..... |
| INDIANA..... | May 16, 1854..... | Charles Cruft..... | Terre Haute.... | John M. Bramwell .. | Indianapolis .. |
| IOWA..... | June 6, 1864..... | B. R. Sherman..... | Vinton..... | Wm. B. Langridge... | Muscataine.... |
| KANSAS..... | December 29, 1868... | John H. Brown..... | Leavenworth... | E. T. Carr..... | Leavenworth.. |
| KENTUCKY..... | October 5, 1847..... | W. H. Warren..... | Lexington..... | Wm. E. Munger..... | Franklin..... |
| LOUISIANA..... | February 12, 1864.... | Joseph H. DeGrange. | New Orleans.... | Gustavus Sontag... | New Orleans.. |
| MAINE..... | May 5, 1852..... | Henry H. Dickey..... | Lewiston..... | Ira Berry..... | Portland..... |
| MASSACHUSETTS & RHODE ISL'D. | May 12, 1805..... | Nicholas Van Slyck.. | Providence, R.I. | Alfred F. Chapman.. | Boston, Mass.. |
| MARYLAND..... | January 25, 1871..... | Chas. H. Mann..... | Towson town .. | Frank J. Kugler..... | Baltimore |
| MICHIGAN..... | January 15, 1857..... | O. L. Spalding..... | St. Johns..... | Wm. P. Inniss..... | Grand Rapids |
| MINNESOTA..... | October 23, 1865..... | Moses H. Getchell.. | Minneapolis... | E. D. B. Porter..... | St. Paul |
| MISSISSIPPI..... | January 21, 1857..... | E. Geo. DeLap..... | Natchez..... | J. L. Power..... | Jackson..... |
| MISSOURI..... | May 22, 1860..... | Oren Root, Jr..... | Carrollton | Geo. F. Goulay..... | St. Louis..... |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE..... | June 12, 1860..... | John D. Patterson... | Manchester.... | John A. Harris..... | Concord |
| NEW JERSEY..... | February 14, 1860.... | Jerome B. Burden.... | N. Brunswick .. | Thos. J. Corson..... | Trenton..... |
| NEW YORK..... | June 18, 1814..... | Frank L. Stowell..... | Olean..... | Robert Macoy..... | New York..... |
| NEBRASKA..... | December 28, 1871.... | Robert W. Furnas.... | Brownville.... | Thos. A. Creigh..... | Brownville .. |
| OHIO..... | October 24, 1843..... | Enoch T. Carson..... | Cincinnati..... | James Nesbit..... | Troy..... |
| PENNSYLVANIA..... | April 14, 1854..... | Geor C. Shidle..... | Pittsburg..... | Charles E. Meyer.... | Philadelphia .. |
| TENNESSEE..... | October 12, 1859..... | Joseph B. Palmer..... | Murfreesboro.. | John Frizzell..... | Nashville..... |
| TEXAS..... | January 19, 1855..... | A. S. Richardson..... | Houston..... | Robert Brewster.... | Houston..... |
| VERMONT..... | June 17, 1824..... | Joseph L. Perkins.... | St. Johnsbury .. | W. H. S. Whitcomb.. | Burlington.... |
| VIRGINIA..... | November 27, 1822... | Wm. B. Isaacs..... | Richmond..... | John Dove..... | Richmond..... |
| WISCONSIN..... | October 29, 1859..... | A. V. H. Carpenter... | Milwaukee..... | Wm. T. Palmer..... | Milwaukee.... |

Officers of Grand Commandery.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| SIR JOSEPH HENRY DEGRANGE..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander.</i> |
| SIR HUGH BREEN..... | <i>V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.</i> |
| SIR JOHN HAWLEY CLARKE..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo.</i> |
| SIR JOHN GRAHAM FLEMING..... | <i>E. Grand Captain General</i> |
| SIR JOHN CHAUNCEY CARPENTER..... | <i>E. Grand Prelate.</i> |
| SIR WILLIAM LEWIS STANFORD..... | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden.</i> |
| SIR ISAAC WATTS HOMAN..... | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden.</i> |
| SIR HENRY PEAT BUCKLEY..... | <i>E. Grand Treasurer.</i> |
| SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder.</i> |
| SIR GEORGE BALDEY..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer.</i> |
| SIR ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer.</i> |
| SIR RUFUS LEWIS BRUCK..... | <i>E. Grand Warder.</i> |
| SIR RAYMOND STEPHEN BURK..... | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards.</i> |

Annual Grand Conclave of 1874.

The next Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, will be held in Grand Lodge, Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Friday, February 13th, 1874, A. O. 756.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Sirs J. P. HORNOR and WM. R. WHITAKER.

TO GRAND RECORDERS.

I respectfully request the Grand Recorders of the various Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar, to transmit to me, by separate mails, duplicate copies of their Proceedings, and the favor shall be reciprocated with due courtesy.

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

Lock Box 321, Post Office, New Orleans.

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.



GRAND COMMANDERY

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

Louisiana.

1874.



Courteously Yours
J. Z. A. Fellows

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Joint Committee on the Administration of Justice

OF THE

APRIL 1870

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA

AND

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

PRINTED BY THE
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON



Very truly yours
J. S. Giddens

Freemasons. Louisiana. Knights Templars.
Grand Commandery.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA

AT ITS

Eleventh Annual Conclave

NEW ORLEANS, FEBRUARY 13, A. D. 1874, A. O. 756

Sir JOSEPH P. HORNOR, - - - R. E. Grand Commander

Sir GUSTAVUS SONTAG, - - - E. Grand Recorder

NEW ORLEANS:

JOHN W. MADDEN, PRINT, 73 CAMP STREET

1874

207

HS

757

L88A2

1874

A.928417

ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar,

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

THE R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at its Sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, City of New Orleans, on Friday, February 13th, A. D. 1874, A. O. 756, at 12 o'clock, M., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR JOSEPH H. DeGRANGE.....R. E. GRAND COMMANDER.
" HUGH BREEN.....V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER.
" JOHN H. CLARKE.....E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO.
" JOHN G. FLEMING.....E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL.
" JOHN C. CARPENTER... ..E. GRAND PRELATE.
" WILLIAM L. STANFORD.....E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.
" ISAAC W. HOMAN.....E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.
" HENRY P. BUCKLEY.....E. GRAND TREASURER.
" GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....E. GRAND RECORDER.
" GEORGE BALDEYE. GRAND STANDARD BEARER.
" ZEBULLUN M. PIKE.....E. GRAND SWORD BEARER.
" RUFUS L. BRUCE.....E. GRAND WARDER.
" RAYMOND S. BURK.....E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR SAMUEL M. TODD.....P. R. E. Grand Commander.
" JOSEPH P. HORNOR....." " "
" JOHN A. STEVENSON... .." " "
" JAMES B. SCOT... ..P. V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.
" WILLIAM R. WHITAKER....." " " "

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT :

SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODD Pennsylvania, New York,
Kentucky, Georgia and California.
SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR Missouri, New Jersey and
Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
SIR JAMES C. BATCHELOR Tennessee and Alabama.
" JAMES B. SCOT Maine.
" JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE Mississippi.
" RICHARD LAMBERT Indiana.
" GUSTAVUS SONTAG Illinois.
" J. Q. A. FELLOWS Kansas, Minnesota, Ver-
mont and Wisconsin.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns :

SIR JOHN A. PEEL, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.
" G. SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.
" JOHN H. CLARKE, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

NEW ORLEANS, February 13th, 1874.

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Credentials courteously report the following Commanderies entitled to representation, and the following Sir Knights entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery as legal Representatives :

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

John A. Peel, E. C. ; Berry Russell, G. ; G. J. Pinckard, C. G.

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

R. L. Bruce, E. C. (H. Cree, proxy) ; Z. M. Pike, G. (D. W. C. Peck, proxy) ;
L. T. Murdock, C. G.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

W. L. Stanford, E. C. (E. E. Adams, proxy) ; J. W. Madden, G. ;
A. Hero, Jr. C. G.

GIRARD COMMANDERY NO. 4.

M. E. Girard, E. C.; Claudius Mayo, G.; J. L. Morris, C. G.

Courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,
JOHN H. CLARKE,
JOHN A. PEEL.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz :

Indivisible Friends No. 1; Jacques de Molay No. 2; Orleans No. 3; Girard No. 4.

The M. E. Grand Master of Knights Templar of the United States, J. Q. A. Fellows, being announced, the R. E. Grand Commander appointed the following Guard of Honor to escort the distinguished Frater to the Asylum: Past R. E. Grand Commanders Sirs Samuel Manning Todd, Joseph Potts Hornor, John Alexander Stevenson, Richard Lambert; Past Deputy Grand Commanders Sir James Bruce Scot, Sir William Ritchie Whitaker; Deputy Grand Commander Sir Hugh Breen; Grand Generalissimo Sir John Hawley Clarke; Grand Captain General Sir John Graham Fleming—when the M. E. Grand Master was received with the honors due his exalted station.

M. E. Grand Master, Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, introduced to the Grand Commandery R. E. Sir W. M. Egan, P. G. Commander of the Grand Commandery of Illinois, who was welcomed and received with appropriate honors.

The R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Joseph H. DeGrange, then delivered the following

ADDRESS:

Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana:

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate you on being permitted by an All Wise Providence to assemble in Conclave to deliberate over the condition of the Order of the Temple in this jurisdiction, and to devise means for its future welfare.

One year ago I was entrusted with the management of the affairs of this Grand Commandery, and permit me now to lay before you for your inspection, my official acts,—true there are not many,—but what there are should

be strictly scrutinized so that the trust which I received at your hands may be again received by you as bright and as pure as it has always been heretofore ; and also that I may have the gratification of having performed my duty to your satisfaction.

Peace and order have reigned supreme in all the branches of our beloved Order. The precepts of the Blessed Emanuel have found true root in the faithful breasts of our valiant Knights, and all the teachings have been fully carried out. For so well versed were they in the work and in the laws, that no appeal has been made, and no interference needed on my part.

The financial difficulties throughout the entire country, and particularly in this city, coupled with the unfortunate and disastrous epidemics in different portions of this State, has proven a sad drawback to the establishment of Commanderies outside of the City of New Orleans. Measures had already been taken by the Sir Knights residents of, and in the vicinity of Shreveport to there establish a Commandery, when the fatal plague put at an end, for the time being, these intentions, and it is to be hoped that ere long Shreveport may fully recover from these misfortunes and have established within her midst a Commandery of Knights Templar.

The City Commanderies although suffering from the financial troubles, have not ceased to flourish, not as much perhaps as it should be, still as well as could be expected under the existing circumstances.

My first duty is to pay that respect due to the honored dead, and I officially announce the death of Past Grand Commander Henry Rufus Swasey, who departed this life on the 14th day of December last, and was interred with all the honors due his exalted rank ; on the 15th day of December I issued Special Order No. 1, ordering the three different Commanderies located in this city to assemble under the banners of the Grand Commandery to form funeral escort ; they responded with alacrity, and in the performance of that duty, displayed a precision of movements and uniformity of appearance, which are alike creditable to themselves and to the honored dead.

On December 16th, I issued General Order No. 7, informing, officially, the different Commanderies in this jurisdiction, the M. E. Grand Master, and the Grand Commanderies of other States of the demise of our Worthy Frater, also ordering the banners and jewels of the Grand Commandery, and the sword-hilts of the Sir Knights to be draped in mourning for the space of three months. Find orders attached.

Past Grand Commander Henry Rufus Swasey held, during his life, many honorable positions in the Fraternity—having held at different times the offices of Grand Master, Grand High Priest, and Grand Commander, and well and truly did he perform all duties incumbent upon him. With so much courtesy and kindness did he preside, that he endeared to him with indissoluble bonds of friendship all with whom he came in contact.

Desirous of seeing Girard Commandery No. 4 commence its labors, and being unable to visit Opelousas, there to dedicate the Commandery and install its officers, which I regretted exceedingly—particularly having in remembrance a former visit—I issued Special Order No. 1, detailing Sir Knight John Hawley Clarke, Grand Generalissimo, for special duty, and ordering him to proceed to Opelousas to perform these duties. This he did to my entire satisfaction. I refer you to his report on the subject, and to my order, which deserves some consideration and action on your part.

The committee appointed and authorized at the last Grand Conclave to make a selection of a drill manual and report to the R. E. Grand Commander, selected the work collated and prepared by Sir Orin Welsh, and popularly known as the New York Drill, with such alteration as may be made by the R. E. Grand Commander. In accordance with that resolution I issued General Order No. 1, approving and adopting the choice made, and recommending the different Commanderies to establish, immediately, in their midsts, Schools of the Knight, so that each and every one would become proficient in the different movements, and in the manual of the sword. I again in General Orders No. 5, reiterated my recommendations.

In furtherance of a resolution requiring the Sir Knights composing the several Commanderies in New Orleans to be called together at least once a month for drill and instruction, steps were immediately taken to procure a room for that purpose, and through the kindness of the Grand Captain Gen. John G. Fleming, Deputy Grand Master, the Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge Hall granted the use of the ball room free of charge—except the actual cost of lights—which, during the entire time, amounts to the nominal amount of eight dollars. I append the communication of Sir Kt. James C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary, on the subject. An expression of our thanks to the Hall Directors should be adopted.

Drills were then immediately ordered under the control and direction of John G. Fleming, Grand Captain General, and W. L. Stanford, Grand Senior Warden, monthly—the months of July and August excepted on account of the intense heat in our latitude. Our Order I deemed to be semi-military; we are really organized and controlled in that manner; we are truly Soldiers of the Cross, and while we must carry out all the teachings and precepts of Charity, Morality and Virtue in our different walks through life; still while doing so, our organization should be held under strict discipline. With that idea in view I adopted and communicated with the several Commanderies and promulgated all resolutions in general and special orders as occasion demanded it, deeming this manner the best and doing away with a mass of useless verbiage, and more to the point.

I must admit that this change and variation from the ancient groove met with some opposition at first; they were not accustomed to drill, nor did they understand the "Order" portion—and now I am happy to state this opposi-

tion has been entirely eradicated and all see the necessity of what has been done. The Grand Commandery should take some steps to continue these drills. The officers of the Grand and Constituent Bodies, the Sir Knights themselves should advance shoulder to shoulder in completing, properly, what has already begun, so that Louisiana, in the grand display of the next Grand Conclave, should hold some position in the line and be able, with some show of excellence, to receive her thrice welcome guests; and although she may be surpassed in proficiency of exercises, she may, by careful application, gain a standard of excellence. I refer you to General Orders Nos. 2 and 5, on the subject of drills.

In April 1873, I received from the Grand Master of Knights Templar a Circular Order, and on May 1st, 1873, I issued General Order No. 3 promulgating the same. Both orders find appended. In accordance with the same all Sir Knights located in this city were summoned to appear fully equipped on Saturday, June 28th, 1873, for inspection and review. I then saw the necessity that some measure should be taken to have the Sir Knights properly equipped, and issued on the 27th of May, General Order No. 4, promulgating the resolution adopted by the Grand Commandery requiring each Knight to be equipped, under the penalty of not being permitted to participate in the meetings of their respective Bodies. I am happy to state that since the issuance of the order and the inspection of May, many have properly equipped themselves and more are so doing. In order to again ascertain the progress made, the January drill was dispensed with by Special Order No. 3, and an inspection and review held instead. These inspections and reviews are beneficial to the Order, and prove an additional animus to the members to perform their respective duties and to become proficient. I append a synopsis of the report made to the M. E. Grand Master in obedience to his circular order. The report is to the 1st of July, 1873.

4 Commanderies:

3 In New Orleans,

1 In Opelousas.

316 Members:

271 Resident members,

45 Non-resident members.

85 Equipped.

231 Not equipped.

Finding that two edicts of the Grand Encampment of the U. S.—one forbidding the parading of any Commandery without the permission of the Grand Commandery or Grand Commander, except upon Masonic occasion, nor then if prohibited by the Grand Commandery;—and another adding certain interrogatories, was not fully known, I promulgated the same in General Orders No. 6, and caused the several Commanderies to notify their members of the edicts, so that none could plead ignorance.



1870-1871, 1872-1873.

1874-1875.

1876-1877, 1878-1879.

1880-1881, 1882-1883.

1884-1885, 1886-1887.

1888-1889, 1890-1891.

1892-1893, 1894-1895.

1896-1897, 1898-1899.

1900-1901, 1902-1903.

1904-1905, 1906-1907.

1908-1909, 1910-1911.

1912-1913, 1914-1915, 1916-1917.

1918-1919, 1920-1921, 1922-1923.

1924-1925, 1926-1927, 1928-1929, 1930-1931, 1932-1933, 1934-1935.

1936-1937, 1938-1939, 1940-1941, 1942-1943.

1944-1945, 1946-1947, 1948-1949, 1950-1951.

1952-1953, 1954-1955, 1956-1957, 1958-1959.

1960-1961, 1962-1963, 1964-1965, 1966-1967, 1968-1969, 1970-1971.

1972-1973, 1974-1975, 1976-1977, 1978-1979, 1980-1981.

1982-1983, 1984-1985, 1986-1987, 1988-1989, 1990-1991, 1992-1993.

1994-1995, 1996-1997, 1998-1999, 2000-2001, 2002-2003, 2004-2005.

2006-2007, 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015.

2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2020-2021.

2022-2023, 2024-2025, 2026-2027, 2028-2029, 2030-2031.

2032-2033, 2034-2035, 2036-2037, 2038-2039.

2040-2041, 2042-2043, 2044-2045, 2046-2047, 2048-2049.

2050-2051, 2052-2053, 2054-2055, 2056-2057, 2058-2059.

2060-2061, 2062-2063, 2064-2065, 2066-2067.

2068-2069, 2070-2071, 2072-2073, 2074-2075.

2076-2077, 2078-2079, 2080-2081, 2082-2083, 2084-2085.

2086-2087, 2088-2089, 2090-2091, 2092-2093.

2094-2095, 2096-2097, 2098-2099, 2100-2101.

2102-2103, 2104-2105, 2106-2107, 2108-2109, 2110-2111.

2112-2113, 2114-2115, 2116-2117, 2118-2119, 2120-2121.

2122-2123, 2124-2125, 2126-2127, 2128-2129, 2130-2131.

2132-2133, 2134-2135, 2136-2137, 2138-2139, 2140-2141.

2142-2143, 2144-2145, 2146-2147, 2148-2149.

2150-2151, 2152-2153, 2154-2155, 2156-2157, 2158-2159.

2160-2161, 2162-2163, 2164-2165, 2166-2167, 2168-2169.

2170-2171, 2172-2173, 2174-2175, 2176-2177, 2178-2179.

2180-2181, 2182-2183, 2184-2185, 2186-2187, 2188-2189.

2190-2191, 2192-2193, 2194-2195, 2196-2197, 2198-2199.

2200-2201, 2202-2203, 2204-2205, 2206-2207, 2208-2209.

2210-2211, 2212-2213, 2214-2215, 2216-2217, 2218-2219.

2220-2221, 2222-2223, 2224-2225, 2226-2227, 2228-2229.

2230-2231, 2232-2233, 2234-2235, 2236-2237, 2238-2239.

2240-2241, 2242-2243, 2244-2245, 2246-2247, 2248-2249.

2250-2251, 2252-2253, 2254-2255, 2256-2257, 2258-2259.

2260-2261, 2262-2263, 2264-2265, 2266-2267, 2268-2269.

2270-2271, 2272-2273, 2274-2275, 2276-2277, 2278-2279.

2280-2281, 2282-2283, 2284-2285, 2286-2287, 2288-2289.

2290-2291, 2292-2293, 2294-2295, 2296-2297, 2298-2299.



I received from the Grand Commander of the State of Maine, Sir John W. Ballou, a circular transmitting certain resolutions protesting against the Grand Master's Order No. 3, in reference to uniforms. And as requested, I present to you, but cannot, as further requested, ask your favorable action or concurrence of the same. Louisiana deems it essential that in order that the Order of the Temple should truly prosper; that all orders emanating from superior officers should be strictly enforced and obeyed; that by no means is it our desire that the "weak should be trampled by the strong," but that Maine being a branch of that Great Tree, we deem it will increase her strength by wheeling into line, and that our love for the Order and our love for our sister Maine is of such strength, as to desire to see her go hand in hand with Louisiana under one common banner, propagating our great principles.

From Sir T. S. Parvin, Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of the United States, comes an official communication requesting me to bring before you for your consideration, the subject of furnishing the portrait of Past Grand Commander J. Q. A. Fellowes, now Grand Master of the United States, engraved, so that it may be placed in published proceedings of the Conclave of 1874, and added to the Galaxy of Grand Masters who have adorned the firmament of Templar Masonry. I append the communication and join in the recommendation that it be done. Sir Knight Fellowes has worked well in the vineyard of Masonry and within the walls of our asylums—and represents our State on this occasion. The position at this time should be and is as much a matter of pride to the Templars of this State as to him who now wields the command.

At my request Sir Knight Fred. Holyland, has made a drawing of a Past Grand Commander's jewel. This State has no design of a jewel for that position, and deeming that one should be adopted, I have had this drawing made for your consideration and adoption, should you so desire it.

It is a templar cross of black enamel with gold border, a passion cross in centre with crown on lower wing of gold, surrounded with a laurel wreath of green gold, centre field transparent red enamel, rays of sun underneath. The whole surmounted by two shields with letters "G." "C." on centre of each, two branches of cane beneath the shields, pelican feeding her young above and resting on shields. The jewel suspended to a closed helmet. The shield, pelican and helmet of gold. The templar cross surrounded with motto: "Deo Duce Ferro Comitante."

Permit me to suggest that as the occasion will soon demand it, that there be created a Committee on Finance, or Audits and Accounts, to supervise the finances and accounts of this Grand Commandery. There appears to be none provided for in our by-laws, and the necessity is no doubt apparent to all the Sir Knights.

I beg to report that I ordered the sum of twenty-five dollars paid to Sir Knight Joseph P. Hornor, at his request, for expenses attending the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Appended find a communication from Sir M. E. Girard, E. C. of Girard Commandery No. 4, in regard to fees paid by his Commandery to the Grand Commandery in 1872, whilst in process of organization. He claims that the amount so paid should not have been exacted, and asks for a reimbursement of the funds, or that the same be placed to the credit of Girard Commandery No. 4. Some action is necessary in the premises.

The Grand Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania forwarded invitations to this Grand Commandery to assist in the dedication of the new Masonic Hall, and the consecration of their asylum, which invitation I regret exceedingly I was unable to avail myself of. You no doubt have since had occasion to read the full description of their display and of their asylum, which reflects credit to the Order generally.

The question having arisen as to the effect upon the standing of a Sir Knight in his Commandery, having his name stricken from the roll of membership from his Lodge and Chapter, and desiring to have the question definitely settled, I communicated on the subject with the M. E. Grand Master, a copy of which communication find appended, also the answer.

And now, Sir Knights, comes the all absorbing question in this jurisdiction—the assembling of the Knights Templar of the United States in Grand Conclave in this city in the month of December, 1874. We trust and hope that as many Sir Knights as can conveniently come from every jurisdiction in the United States will honor us with their presence. They will be welcome—thrice welcome. Although we have not escaped the financial panic, and that some portions of our fair State have suffered from epidemics, still we hope that with the aid of our Divine Father and our Redeemer to place ourselves in as good position as we possibly can so that we may be able to greet them as we would wish. No matter what may come remember that true, warm hearts beat in the breasts of Louisiana Knights, and knightly hands will greet you. “Such as we have will we give unto, you.” Then come in bodies and show us by your bright example how to walk forward in Templar Masonry.

To you, Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery, you need the assistance and aid of every Knight in the jurisdiction to make our greeting as it should be.

Measures should be immediately taken towards making the arrangements necessary; committees and sub-committees appointed, and the subject matter, which is vast and grand, deserves in this Conclave your sincere, serious and deep consideration. Let each and every one do what he can, so that we may take our rank in the line of those States which have already been honored and have worn those honors so worthily.

Finally, Sir Knights, in laying down the authority with which you have entrusted me, permit me individually to return to Sir Knights W. L. Stanford, Grand Senior Warden; John H. Clarke, Grand Generalissimo; and G. Sontag, Grand Recorder; as well as to all other officers of the Grand

Commandery, who have kindly assisted me in the discharge of my duties, my heartfelt thanks. And to all Sir Knights in this jurisdiction, I trust that the fair fame of Louisiana will be so taken to heart that their renewed zeal will ensure success.

DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING GRAND COMMANDER'S ADDRESS.

REPORT OF SIR J. H. CLARKE, GRAND GENERALISSIMO.

To Sir JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE, *Right Eminent Grand Commander K. T. State of Louisiana* :

EMINENT SIR—In accordance with Special Order No. 1, dated New Orleans, June 20th, 1873, directing me as Grand Generalissimo to proceed to Opelousas, St. Landry Parish, to dedicate, preside during the election of officers, and install the same, of Girard Commandery No. 4, I beg leave to submit the following Report :

I left New Orleans, June 23d, arriving at Opelousas the following day, just in time to partake of the annual dinner, given by Humble Cottage Lodge No. 19, receiving a hearty welcome from them, many of whom I had met at the same place seventeen years before.

At half-past six in the evening, the Sir Knights assembled in their Asylum ; after having opened in due form, and presenting and causing to be read the special authority under which I was acting, I was received, took charge and immediately caused an election to be held, with the following result :

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| MICHEL ELOI GIRARD..... | <i>Eminent Commander.</i> |
| CLAUDIUS MAYO..... | <i>Generalissimo.</i> |
| JONATHAN LEVI MORRIS..... | <i>Captain General.</i> |
| JAMES RAY..... | <i>Prelate.</i> |
| GEORGE PULFORD..... | <i>Senior Warden.</i> |
| E. TAYLOR LEWIS..... | <i>Junior Warden.</i> |
| ELBERT GANT..... | <i>Treasurer.</i> |
| KARL HERMANN BODEMULLER | <i>Recorder.</i> |
| MALICHI GOULD MAY..... | <i>Standard Bearer.</i> |
| ROSEMOND DUGAS.. .. | <i>Sword Bearer.</i> |
| JAMES W. JACKSON.... | <i>Warder.</i> |
| W. A. ROBINSON..... | <i>Captain of Guard.</i> |
| LOUIS LEJEUME..... | <i>Sentinel.</i> |

I then duly installed the above named in their respective offices, presenting the Eminent Commander with their charter, dedicating it under the name of Girard Commandery No. 4.

As many of the Sir Knights reside some distance in the country, and it is very difficult to assemble them from badness of roads and other causes, I granted on application of the Eminent Commander a Dispensation to confer the Degrees on the following companions of Gordy R. A. Chapter No. 32:

Companion Joseph Chenier,
 " George Osborn Elms,
 " François Louis Petre,
 " Flavius Joseph Hendley,

Dispensing with the usual four weeks time, permitting the committee to report forthwith, they being old residents and well known to all the Sir Knights.

The committee reporting favorably, and election was gone into, the candidates duly elected to take the orders, I thereupon had an opportunity to observe their manner of conferring them, and their proficiency in the work, which I pronounce very favorably and predict for the young Commandery a bright future.

All of which is courteously submitted,

JOHN H. CLARKE,

Grand Generalissimo, Grand Commandery, K. T. of La.
 New Orleans, La., June 23th, 1873.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL ORDERS OF GRAND COMMANDER.

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, March 21st, 1873.

General Orders No. 1.

To the Eminent Commanders of all Commanderies within the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and to all the Officers and Members of this Grand Commandery—Greeting :

WHEREAS, The Grand Commandery at its regular Conclave held on Friday, the 14th day of February, 1873, adopted the following resolution :

" *Resolved*, That a special committee of three be appointed, of which the R. E. Grand Commander shall be the chairman, whose duty it shall be to select a Manual of Instruction and Drill, for use in this jurisdiction, the said committee to make report to the R. E. Grand Commander, which selection, on his approval, he shall make known by a general order;" and

Whereas, The said committee appointed, as authorized, have made the following report to me :

"NEW ORLEANS, March 14th, 1873.

To the R. E. Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana :

The undersigned, a committee appointed to select and report a system of Drill and Tactics, to be used by the Commanderies and Sir Knights of this jurisdiction, respectfully report, that they have examined a number of printed manuals of other jurisdictions, and after due consideration recommend the adoption of the manual, collected and prepared by Sir Orrin Welch, in October, 1871, as being best adapted for the purpose required, with the proviso that the R. E. Grand Commander may order such changes in the same, as he may deem necessary, in order to conform to the usages in this jurisdiction.

Courteously submitted,

RICHARD LAMBERT, P. G. C.,

SAM'L M. TODD, P. G. C.,

JOSEPH P. HORNOR, P. G. C."

1.—Now, therefore, I, Joseph H. DeGrange, Grand Commander of the State of Louisiana, in accordance with above mentioned resolution, do approve and adopt the "manual proposed by Sir Orrin Welch, and adopted by the Grand Commandery of New York, in 1871," as the manual for the guidance of all Commanderies of Knights Templar within this jurisdiction, with such changes as may be communicated by me to the Eminent Commanders, to conform with the usages of this jurisdiction, as recommended by the committee.

2.—In furtherance of the object in view, I would recommend that the Eminent Commanders of all Commanderies in this jurisdiction, take steps immediately to institute a school of the Sir Knights and of the Commanderies, in order that all may become proficient in the manœuvres and in the manual of the sword.

3.—Further orders will be issued promulgating other resolutions, from time to time, as occasion may require.

4.—For the better information of all Sir Knights, the E. C.'s will cause these orders to be read at the first Conclave after their reception.

By order of

JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

Attest :

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.



GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, April 30th, 1873.

General Orders No. 2.

To the E. C.'s of all Commanderies within this jurisdiction, and to all Officers and Members of this Grand Commandery—Greeting :

WHEREAS, The Grand Commandery at its regular Conclave, held February 14, 1873, did adopt the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be requested to call together the Sir Knights members of Commanderies in New Orleans, for drill and instruction under his supervision, at least once in each month, and much oftener, as he may consider necessary."

Now, therefore, in accordance with the above resolution, I, Jos. H. De-Grange, Grand Commander of the State of Louisiana, by the power vested in me, do direct and order, that the regular monthly drill will be held in the Grand Lodge Hall, on Saturday, May 24th, and June 14th, at 7 o'clock, P. M., and thereafter, as may be determined, under the direction and control of Sir Knights John G. Fleming, G. C. G., and W. L. Stanford, G. S. W., who will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The E. C. of each Commandery will cause this order to be read at the head of the line, and all members of their Commandery notified thereof.

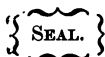
By order,

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,
Grand Commander.

Attest:

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.



GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, May 1st, 1873.

General Orders No. 3.

To the E. C. of all Commanderies within this jurisdiction—Greeting:

The enclosed circular order of the Grand Master of Knights Templar of the United States of America, is hereby promulgated. Certain interrogatories being propounded therein I have deemed it proper and necessary in order that strictly correct answer could be made—

1. That all Commanderies in the city of New Orleans, be and are ordered to appear at the Grand Lodge Hall, fully equipped on Saturday, June 8th, 1873, at 7 o'clock, sharp, for inspection and review.

2. The Eminent Commanders of the Commanderies in the city will see that their members are duly summoned to be at their Asylum on the day and at the time mentioned.

3. Questions 1 and 2 of the Grand Master's circular order, is required to be answered through the Recorders on or before the 1st day of July, 1873.

4. The E. C. of Girard Commandery will cause answers to be made to all questions propounded by the Grand Master, and have same forwarded to the Grand Recorder.

5. Each Commander is hereby ordered to cause this order together with the Grand Master's circular order, to be read at the head of the line, at the first meeting of their Commandery after reception.

By order,

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

Attest:

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.



GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, May 27th, 1873.

General Orders No. 4.

To the E. C.'s of all Commanderies within this jurisdiction, and to all Officers and Members of this Grand Commandery—Greeting :

1.—The following resolution, adopted by the Grand Commandery at its annual Conclave, held February 14th, 1873, is hereby promulgated for the information of all Sir Knights within this jurisdiction :

“ *Resolved*, That the Commanderies of this jurisdiction be instructed to require their members to fully uniform and equip themselves, with the least possible delay, and certainly before the next Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery, *under penalty* of not being permitted to participate or take part in the meetings, or work, of any Commandery of this jurisdiction.”

2.—The Eminent Commanders will cause these orders to be read at the head of the line, at the first Conclave after its reception, and are instructed and charged to see its execution in their respective commands.

By order,

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

Attest:

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.



GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, June 28th, 1873.

General Orders No. 5.

To the Eminent Commanders of all Commanderies within this jurisdiction and to the Officers and Members of this Grand Commandery—Greeting :

1st. The general drills prescribed by General Order No. 2, will be dispensed with during the months of July and August, and be resumed

monthly thereafter, and be held in the Masonic Hall at 7 o'clock, P. M., on the following days and dates :

Saturday, September 13th, 1873.

" October 11th, 1873,

" November 15th, 1873,

" December 13th, 1873,

" January 10th, 1874,

unless otherwise ordered, in which event due notice will be given of the change of the dates.

2d. The E. Commanders of each Commandery will view the necessity of taking immediate steps to establish within their respective commands a School of the Knights, to enable all their members to become proficient in the manual of the sword and drill. Each Commandery will be inspected from time to time by the proper officers.

3d. These orders will be read at the General Parade, and the E. C. of each Commandery will cause them to be read at the first Conclave after their reception, and all members notified of the days and dates of the regular drills.

By order,

Attest:

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

{ SEAL. }

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, August 1st, 1873.

General Order No. 6.

To all Eminent Commanders of Commanderies within this jurisdiction--
Greeting :

1. The following edicts of the Grand Encampment of the United States adopted at the Grand Conclave held at Baltimore, September 19th, 1871, is hereby promulgated :

"1st. Subordinate Commanderies have no right to appear in public as such, without the permission of the Grand Commandery or Grand Commander, except upon Masonic occasion, nor then if prohibited by the Grand Commander.

"2d. That hereafter, no petition for the Orders of Knighthood shall be received by any Subordinate Commandery, unless the applicant shall state therein whether he has or has not been rejected by any Commandery."

2. The E. Commanders of the various Commanderies will enforce within their respective Commands, the foregoing edicts of the Grand En-

campment, and cause these orders to be read at the first Conclave after its reception for information of the Sir Knights.

By order,

Attest :

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

SEAL.

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, December 16th, 1873.

General Orders No. 7.

To the Eminent Commanders of each Commandery in this jurisdiction—
 \ Greeting :

1. It is my painful duty to officially announce that on Sunday, the 14th day of December, R. E. Henry Rufus Swasey, Past Grand Commander of the State of Louisiana, was called from his pilgrimage on earth to that Great and Everlasting Asylum, where his rest shall be evermore.

Faithful in the discharge of all duties entrusted to him, he was worthily honored by his brethren, companions and fraters, and wore those honors with that true modesty characteristic of a chivalric and valiant knight.

His sword is now forever sheathed, unstained and unsullied.

When the Grand Commandery of this State was first formed, he was chosen to preside over its destinies, and so courteously, and with so much zeal and ability he performed his duties that it stands to-day a monument to his knightly fame.

With Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2, of which he was a member and Past Eminent Commander, I sincerely condole for the loss they have suffered.

2. In order that true and meritorious honors should be paid to his memory, which we all revere, the banners and jewels of the Grand Commandery and sword-hilts of the Sir Knights will be draped in mourning for the space of three months.

3. These orders will be read at the head of the line of each Commandery, at the first Conclave after its reception, and the E. Commanders will see them duly executed.

By order of

Attest :

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

SEAL.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,
THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, June 30th, 1874.

Special Order No. 1.

To Sir Knights Michel Eloï Girard, Claudius Mayo, George Pulford, James Ray, John Collins Gordy, and to all other Sir Knights to whom this may concern—Greeting:

The Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana at its regular Conclave adopted the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That a charter be granted to Girard Commandery, U. D., under the name and style of Girard Commandery, No. 4”—and reposing all trust and confidence in the prudence and integrity of Sir Knight John Hawley Clarke, E. Grand Generalissimo—being myself unable to attend—he is hereby detailed for special duty, and is ordered to proceed to Opelousas, Louisiana, and to constitute and dedicate in form, the Sir Knight's aforesaid into a regular Commandery to be known and designated as Girard Commandery No. 4, and to install the officers elect according to the usages of the Order. And for so doing, this shall be his sufficient authority, and he will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

Attest:

G. SONTAG,

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

Grand Recorder.



GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }

NEW ORLEANS, December 14th, 1873.

Special Orders No. 2.

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery and to all Sir Knights in this jurisdiction—Greeting:

1. The Sir Knights members of Indivisible Friends No. 1, Jacques de Molay No. 2, and Orleans Commanderies No. 3, will assemble under the banners of the Grand Commandery at Masonic Hall, on Monday, December 15th, at 3 o'clock, P. M., fully equipped to form funeral escort and pay the last tribute of respect to our deceased frater, Henry Rufus Swasey, Past Grand Commander of the State.

2. The E. Commanders of each Commandery will see the execution of this order in their respective commands.

By order of

Attest:

G. SONTAG,

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

Grand Recorder.



GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,
 THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }
 NEW ORLEANS, January 3d, 1874.

Special Orders No. 3.

To the Eminent Commanders of Indivisible Friends No. 1, Jacques de Molay No. 2, and Orleans No. 3 Commanderies—Greeting:

1. The January Drill ordered in General Orders No. 5 is dispensed with, and in lieu thereof a General Review and Inspection will take place on Saturday, 10th of January, 1874, at 7 o'clock, P. M., at the Masonic Hall.

2. The Sir Knights provided therewith, will appear in full uniform—those otherwise provided will appear in fatigue uniform—and those not provided with either full or fatigue uniforms, in black clothes.

3. The E. Commanders of the several Commanderies will cause all the Sir Knights within their several Commands to be notified of these orders.

By order of

Attest:

G. SONTAG,

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

Grand Recorder.



CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND COMMANDER'S OFFICE,
 THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF K. T. OF THE STATE OF LA. }
 NEW ORLEANS, February 12th, 1874.

J. Q. A. FELLOWS, Esq., *Most Eminent Grand Master of Knights Templar:*

M. E. SIR AND FRATER—The question having arisen as to the standing of a Sir Knight in his Commandery having his name stricken from the roll of membership of either his Lodge or Chapter, I respectfully make the following inquiry on the subject, and beg to lay before you the following points for your decision:

Does the striking off the roll of membership of a Lodge or Chapter effect the standing of a Sir Knight in his Commandery?

Does it debar him from re-holding office, either in his Commandery or the Grand Commandery; and what is his status generally?

An early answer will much oblige,

Courteously yours,

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER,

GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. }

NEW ORLEANS, February 13th, 1874.

SIR JOS. H. DEGRANGE, *R. E. Grand Commander of Grand Commandery of Louisiana :*

R. E. SIR AND FRATER—In reply to your letter of yesterday, making inquiry as to the effect upon the standing of a Sir Knight in his Commandery, having his name stricken from the roll of membership in his Lodge or Chapter, I would reply, that as the Constitution of the Grand Encampment does not require a candidate for the Orders of Knighthood to be a member of either Lodge or Chapter, so no such requirement is necessary to hold membership or for eligibility to office in his Commandery.

2. That while suspension or expulsion from his Lodge or Chapter deprives a Knight of all rights and privileges in his Commandery, and all intercourse with the Order, yet it is only such action which will thus deprive a Knight of such rights and privileges. That the mere striking of the name of a Knight from the roll of his Lodge or Chapter, is not an equivalent to such suspension or expulsion, and that unless his name shall be so stricken from the roll because of suspension or expulsion, his standing in his Commandery and the Order, is in no wise affected. The striking from the roll is merely proof of the fact that the Knight is no longer a member, and may have been done by reason of death, demit or any other cause, and it is only when it shall have been done by reason of a previous suspension or expulsion, after due trial, that such striking from the roll entails any disability upon the Knight.

Courteously yours,

J. Q. A. FELLOWS,

Grand Master.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, }

GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS, }

GRAND LODGE HALL.

NEW ORLEANS, August 22d, 1873.

To JOS. H. DEGRANGE, *Right Eminent Grand Commander :*

R. E. SIR KNIGHT—I have the honor to inform you that on or about the 20th May last, on the application of E. Capt. General Sir Jno. G. Fleming, the Board of Directors of the Grand Hall, were pleased to grant to the Commanderies and Grand Commandery the use of the large hall for drill purposes free of charge, except for the gas used.

With regards I have the honor,

Courteously, your obedient servant,

JAMES C. BATCHELOR,

Grand Secretary.



NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 12th, 1874.

To Jos. H. DEGRANGE, Right Eminent Grand Commander :

On the part of Girard Commandery No. 4, I desire to call your attention to the fact that with a view of organizing a Commandery at Opelousas, in St. Landry, four Sir Knights in 1872, applied for a dispensation for an Emergent Commandery, and it was granted, but with the condition that the fees received for the orders conferred should be paid to the R. E. Grand Commandery.

Having no choice about it, we received the dispensation, conferred the orders on five R. A. Masons and paid into the treasury of the Grand Commandery, the fee of \$250, and applied for and obtained another dispensation for a Commandery U. D. which has since been chartered as Girard Commandery No. 4.

Conceiving that the fees thus paid for the orders belonged to the Commandery thus created, inasmuch as the dispensation was granted solely with a view of creating a new Commandery and the Commandery having been created, we hereby request that the amount so paid be returned to Girard Commandery No. 4. But should the M. E. Grand Commandery prefer not to return the amount at this time we would be satisfied if the R. E. Grand Commandery would be pleased to give Girard Commandery No. 4, credit for the amount.

Yours truly and courteously,

M. E. GIRARD,

E. C. Girard Commandery No. 4.

R. E. Sir Joseph P. Hornor, moved that the address be referred to a special committee of three for distribution, which was adopted, and Sir Knights, J. P. Hornor, R. Lambert and Z. M. Pike, appointed on said committee.

The Grand Treasurer submitted the following report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee:

*H. P. Buckley, Grand Treasurer,**In account with Grand Commandery of Louisiana :*

1873.

DR.

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| February, 17— | To cash received from G. Sontag, | G. R..... | \$ 325 17 |
| February, 9— | “ “ “ “ | ..... | 165 00 |
| | | | <hr/> \$490 17 |

| 1873. | | CR. | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Feb'y 19— | By Warrant No. 1, | R. S. Burk..... | \$ | 5 00 |
| " 22 " | " " " | " 2, G. Sontag..... | | 37 00 |
| " 26 " | " " " | " 3, N. O. Picayune..... | | 3 40 |
| " 27 " | " " " | " 4, Stetson & Armstrong..... | | 1 50 |
| April 8 " | " " " | " 5, Jos. P. Hornor..... | | 25 00 |
| " 12 " | " " " | " 6, G. J. Pinckard..... | | 15 00 |
| May 27 " | " " " | " 7, A. W. Hyatt..... | | 197 50 |
| 1874. | | | | |
| Feb'y 12 " | " " " | " 8, Est. H. R. Swasey..... | | 50 00 |
| " " " | " " " | " 9, N. O. Times..... | | 6 75 |
| " " " | " " " | " 10, John W. Madden..... | | 5 50 |
| " " " | " " " | " 11, N. O. Picayune..... | | 3 38 |
| By balance..... | | | 140 00— | \$490 17 |

Eleven Warrants returned numbering from 1 to 11 each inclusive.

H. P. BUCKLEY,
Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Recorder made the following report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee:

NEW ORLEANS, February 13, 1874.

To the Grand Commandery of K. T. of the State of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS—I herewith submit this, my report as Grand Recorder, of the transactions of my office for the past year.

Five hundred copies of the proceedings of the last annual Grand Conclave were printed soon after its close, and copies sent to the Commanderies in this jurisdiction, sister Grand Commanderies and Masonic publications.

It affords me much pleasure to report that all the Commanderies under our jurisdiction have made returns and paid their dues.

Subjoined I submit my account current for your consideration :

G. Sontag, Grand Recorder, in account with the Grand Commandery :

| 1874. | | DR. | | |
|-----------|---|-----|----|----------|
| Jan'y 2— | To Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2..... | | \$ | 115 00 |
| Feb'y 1 " | Girard Commandery No. 4..... | | | 20 00 |
| " 1 " | Orleans Commandery No. 3..... | | | 20 00 |
| " 5 " | Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1..... | | | 10 00 |
| | | | | \$165 00 |
| 1874. | | CR. | | |
| Feb'y 9— | By Grand Treasurer..... | | | \$165 00 |

Courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,
Grand Recorder.

R. E. Sir Samuel M. Todd, moved that the rules in regard to uniform be suspended for this occasion, to enable Sir Knights from the country to visit the Grand Commandery, which was adopted, when several Sir Knights, not in regulation uniform, were admitted.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, through its chairman, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, submitted the following report, which was ordered to be published with the proceedings:

NEW ORLEANS, February 13th, 1874.

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence present this review of the transactions of the following Grand Commanderies:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------|
| ALABAMA..... | 1873. | MASSACHUSETTS..... | 1873. |
| ARKANSAS..... | 1872. | MICHIGAN..... | 1873. |
| CALIFORNIA..... | 1873. | MISSISSIPPI..... | 1873. |
| CANADA..... | 1873. | MISSOURI..... | 1873. |
| CONNECTICUT..... | 1873. | NEW HAMPSHIRE..... | 1872. |
| GEORGIA..... | 1873. | NEW JERSEY..... | 1873. |
| INDIANA..... | 1873. | NEW YORK..... | 1873. |
| ILLINOIS..... | 1872. | OHIO..... | 1873. |
| IOWA..... | 1873. | PENNSYLVANIA..... | 1873. |
| KANSAS..... | 1873. | TENNESSEE..... | 1873. |
| KENTUCKY..... | 1873. | TEXAS..... | 1872, 1873. |
| MAINE..... | 1873. | VIRGINIA..... | 1872. |
| MARYLAND..... | 1873. | WISCONSIN..... | 1873. |

ALABAMA.

The thirteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Alabama was held at Huntsville, 7th May, 1873, R. E. Sir Joseph H. Johnson, Grand Commander.

The proceedings are entirely of a local character. The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir Daniel Sayre, the Grand Recorder. We do not understand what he means by saying that we had not recovered from the effects of our Baltimore expedition. We were there in September of 1871, and our report was written in February, 1872, and we cannot see the connection between the two events. If our worthy frater will take notice that after we left Baltimore we returned to the vicinity of New Jersey and stayed there for some two months, he will probably give us the credit of having entirely recovered from anything that might have happened to us in the Monumental City.

R. E. Sir Walter L. Bragg was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Daniel Sayre re-elected Grand Recorder.

ARKANSAS.

There being no quorum of the Grand Commandery of Arkansas on the 29th of October, at Little Rock, the date of its regular meeting, it was not opened; but the Grand Commander called a special Conclave in lieu thereof, which was held at Little Rock, 31st December, 1872, R. E. Sir Luke E. Barbour, Grand Commander. The proceedings are entirely of local interest, and there is no report on correspondence.

R. E. Sir Luke E. Barber, Grand Commander, and Sir John W. Rison, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

CALIFORNIA.

The fifteenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of California was held in the City of San Francisco, 11th of April, 1873, R. E. Sir William Wilson Taylor, Grand Commander.

The following from the address meets our hearty approval:

There has been no occasion during my term calling for the exercise of executive authority in the settlement of any disputed point of Templar law, usage, or grievance. This gratifying fact may be referred to two causes: First, and perhaps mainly, is this harmony of feeling and action to be attributed to the excellent statutes adopted by this Grand Commandery. Ambiguity and imperfection of statutes always inevitably lead to various and conflicting interpretations, and consequent dissension. Clearness of expression and thoroughness, on the other hand, are the sure promoters of harmony of opinion and agreement in practice. It may also be said that the entire absence of any cases calling for the decision of disputed questions is evidence of the high character of the Knights Templar under this jurisdiction. Carelessness, ignorance, and factiousness produce trouble under the best statutes that can be devised; while conscientious carefulness, the knowledge which is the fruit of diligent study, and the fidelity to obligation, which is the first of knightly virtues, are infallible guarantees for fraternal concord. The enactment of wise and just laws and the possession of intelligence to comprehend their meaning and appreciate the grounds on which they are founded, insure a willing obedience on the part of the governed.

"Were half the power that fills the world with terror,
Were half the wealth bestowed on camps and courts
Given to redeem the human mind from error,
Then were no need for arsenals and forts."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir Charles Louis Wiggin, and our proceedings of 1872 are acknowledged and reviewed. We have to return our acknowledgments for the extensive quotations made from our report, which seems to meet with approval. We regret that time and space prevent us from liberally extracting from the review before us.

R. E. Thomas Hubbard Caswell was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Charles Louis Wiggin re-elected Grand Recorder.

CANADA.

- We have received a copy of an address of the Very Eminent Sir Knight Col. W. J. B. McLeod Moore, before the Grand Priory, at the Masonic Temple, Kingston, on the 14th of August, 1873. It would be impossible for us to do more than return our thanks for this document; for if we attempted to make use of it in this report, we would have to do as many of our con-

freres have done—copy it in full; we regret that our space forbids us to do so.

CONNECTICUT.

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut was held at Danbury, 18th of March, 1873, Very E. Sir Daniel Calkins, Deputy Grand Commander, presiding. The Grand Commander's address was read by the Grand Recorder, and contained an apology for his absence. The report of the Deputy Grand Commander shows a strict attention to business, having visited a great number of the Commanderies under his jurisdiction.

The following amendment to the statutes and regulations was offered and laid over until next meeting. We should like to see it adopted in every Grand Commandery.

ARTICLE XII. UNIFORM AND DRESS.

SEC. 25. No Sir Knight shall sit as an officer of this Grand Commandery, except he be clothed in full dress, and no one shall sit as a member, except he be clothed in the full fatigue dress of the Commandery to which he may belong, and with the proper jewel of his office,—that is to say, substituting the cap for the chapeau, and white gloves for gauntlets.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir John W. Steadman, and our proceedings of 1873 are briefly noticed.

R. E. Sir Daniel Calkins was elected Grand Commander, and Sir John W. Steadman re-elected Grand Recorder.

GEORGIA.

The twelfth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the Knights Templar of Georgia, was held at Atlanta, 21st of May, 1873, R. E. Sir Allen Sherrod Cutts, Grand Commander.

The views of the Grand Commander in regard to punishment for non-payment of dues seems to us to be the true Masonic and Knightly aspect of the question :

The expulsion of a brother from the Order to which he belongs for the non-payment of dues is a question of the gravest character, and worthy of our very serious consideration. It is not in keeping with that charity which is taught in every lesson in Freemasonry. The dues we owe to our Order is but a debt, and its non-payment cannot be rated as a crime. Then this action on the part of a Lodge is often abused as in a case of inability. Shall the good name and character of a poor but worthy Mason be forever blighted, and that by those who are bound to him by the peculiar ties of our Order? The Grand Lodge of Georgia has extended this rule over its membership; shall we follow in its illustrious footsteps? The subject is with you, Sir Knights; give it a charitable consideration.

The Grand Recorder acknowledges the proceedings of several of the Grand Commanderies, our own for 1872 included. The Committee on the Grand Master's address made the following report, which was adopted :

Resolved, That no Sir Knight, member of a Subordinate Commandery, shall be *stricken from the roll* for non-payment of dues; but that after a member shall be in arrears for the space of twelve months, he shall be summoned to appear at a regular meeting of the Commandery, to show cause why he has not paid his said dues, and on his so appearing, the Com-

mandery shall act in their discretion, by remitting said dues, giving further time, or otherwise. But, in case of his not obeying said summons, then he shall be summoned to answer charges for violation of obligation, and suspended or expelled, as to the Commandery shall seem proper.

The following extraordinary proceeding was had, which needs no comment at our hands :

The Grand Recorder stated that he had been requested by Eminent Sir J. Emmett Blackshear, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to inform this Grand Body that he was not ready to report, but would be in time to publish the report with the printed proceedings, if still the desire of this Grand Commandery ; when, on motion of Eminent Sir Joseph E. Wells, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be abolished.

R. E. William H. Fuller was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Charles R. Armstrong, Grand Recorder.

ILLINOIS.

The sixteenth annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Illinois, was held at Chicago, 22d October, 1872, R. E. Sir Wiley M. Egan, Grand Commander. We quote the following from the opening of his address :

With Knightly courtesy we greet each other, with Knightly prudence we ponder the needs of our brethren and our Order, with Knightly generosity we relieve the suffering and the distressed, and with Knightly hospitality we renew that social and fraternal intercourse, which begets those intimate relations in and through which are developed the loftiest sentiments and the brightest virtues. We step for a little while out of the daily round of toil and care, and enter a charmed circle where we clasp hands with each other like true brethren, and breathe the only name which is a harbinger of peace to way-worn and weary souls. We reverently bow only that we may stand the more erect, and renew the ties that bind us, that in union we may find our greatest strength.

The Grand Commander reports the following decision : " In one case a companion in good standing in his Chapter, but not affiliated with any Lodge, petitioned for the orders, and the question arose whether he was eligible. My reply was, that if the petitioner were a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, the matter of his connection with a Lodge could cut no figure." This, we think, covers the whole law on the subject, and should be the recognized ruling throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment.

The Grand Commander, alluding to the great fire at Chicago, and to the fact that he had been constituted the custodian by the Grand Commandery of the fund for the relief of Sir Knights suffering from said fire, makes a very minute report of his actions, showing the great good that had been accomplished.

An invitation was received from a photographic firm in Chicago, requesting each and all of the Knights present in the Grand Commandery to come forward and have their photographs taken, which was received and, as far as practicable, accepted.

The committee appointed at the last annual Conclave to receive and disburse funds for the relief of the Sir Knights suffering by the great fire at Chicago, make their final report, showing the disbursements of \$1384 71.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir James H. Miles. Our proceedings of 1872 were received, and are reviewed at considerable length. We take great pleasure in quoting his concluding remarks :

To the corps reportorial, the perusal of whose reports has been so pleasant and profitable to us, we present this, probably our last effort, in hopes that they will extend to us the same leniency as heretofore. We present herewith our usual table of statistics compiled from the various reports, from which it will be seen that our Order is steadily advancing, numbering, as we find, 29 Grand Commanderies, with 458 Subordinates, with a membership of 34,448, of whom 4917 have been Knighted during the past year.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the retiring Grand Commander.

R. E. Sir Daniel Dustin was elected Grand Commander, and Sir James H. Miles was re-elected Grand Recorder.

INDIANA.

The nineteenth annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, was held in the city of Muncie, the first of April, 1873, R. E. Charles Cruft' Grand Commander. The Grand Commander, in his address, recommends the repeal of the article contained in their statutes, making him the ex-officio Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and remarks that neither the constitution nor edicts of the Grand Encampment, fix any such duties on the Grand Commander, and "*they are not required of him in any other jurisdiction*;" therefore, "neither authority nor usage can be invoked to sustain the exceptional rule of this Grand Commandery, which should now be rescinded."

His views in regard to uniform are very sound, and we quote them to show how correctly and thoroughly the question is understood, not only in Indiana, but throughout the great West, where no questions of very ancient usage are allowed to conflict with positive and express statute law :

There is no question in this Grand Jurisdiction as to the uniform of a Knight Templar. This Grand Commandery, in 1870 (Pro. 1870, p. 21), adopted the regulation uniform, prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States in 1862. This is the only equipment of a Knight Templar recognized here. Several communications have been received from officers and Sir Knights of other Grand Jurisdictions on the vexed question of costume, and the injustice of the edict of 1862. To all these, courteous answers have been transmitted, informing our worthy Frates that there is no contest over this matter in Indiana, and that this Grand Commandery is loyal to the Grand Encampment of the United States, in all respects, and obeys all its edicts and requirements, as soon as made known. The way for all Commanderies to settle the question of costume, is to procure that which has been adopted by the Grand Encampment—wear it, and stop all controversy about it. If there is to be any uniform equipment which will mark a Knight Templar, throughout the United States, it must be determined upon and enforced by the Grand Encampment. If left to the Grand Commanderies no two will be alike.

It is the unquestionable duty of every Sir Knight to equip himself, in the prescribed uniform of a Knight Templar, as soon as he is admitted to the Orders—as much so as to acquire the ritual or perform any other service connected therewith. It is impossible for him to appear in any capacity, as a Knight Templar, without he is clad as such, and bears the appropriate arms of such. He is prevented from publicly appearing in the line or on parade without his uniform, and has no opportunity to cultivate the carriage, or acquire the drill appropriate to the Orders, without his proper

costume. If he is unable or unwilling to equip himself, as required by the rules and regulations of the Orders, he ought not to have sought admittance to them, or finding himself in, without due calculation, he ought either straightway to take his demit, or else comply with the requirements he knows to exist. The thorough equipment of a Commandery leads to more thorough drill, and the better acquirement of ritualistic and tactical knowledge, and inspires a much greater interest in all the work. Commanderies which are not already fully equipped, should promptly see to it that this is done.

We approvingly quote the following decisions of the Grand Commander :

No Sir Knight can be permitted to parade with a Commandery, in this jurisdiction, clothed in what is styled the "*black uniform*," or any other costume except that prescribed by the edict of the Grand Encampment of the United States, of 1862. (Pro. 1862, G. E., pp. 45, 50), which is the only costume of a Knight Templar recognized in this Grand Jurisdiction.

It is improper for any officer or member of a Subordinate Commandery to appear in full Templar uniform in a Council of Red Cross Knights, while conferring the Order of Red Cross. The decision of this Grand Commandery on the subject (*Vide* Pro. 1872, p. 57), applies to *all members* of a Commandery, whether officers or otherwise. The costume to be used in a Council of Red Cross Knights, as prescribed by the Grand Commandery, is the regulation fatigue uniform. (Pro. 1872, p. 57.)

Stiffness of a limb or joint does not preclude a companion, otherwise worthy, from receiving the Orders of Knighthood, if he be capable of conforming to all the ceremonies of the Orders, bearing arms, and performing the requisite sword exercise.

We greatly rejoice at the following action. Our opinion in regard to the old name of the Commandery in question, which has now been dropped, has been generally coincided in by the whole fraternity of reporters.

Sir William Hacker submitted the following :

MADISON, IND., March 29, 1873.

To the Grand Commandery of Indiana :

At a stated Conclave of Caleb Schmidlapp Commandery No. 22, held at their Asylum on 20th inst., the following resolution was unanimously adopted, to-wit :

"*Resolved*, That the Representatives from this Commandery to the annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery be, and the same are hereby instructed, to request that the Grand Commandery change the title of this Commandery, from Caleb Schmidlapp Commandery to Madison Commandery. And that the Recorder forward a copy of this resolution to the Grand Commandery.

"The foregoing is most respectfully submitted,

[Seal]

SIDNEY E. HAIGH, *Recorder*."

Whereupon, on motion of Sir Alexander Thomas, it was unanimously *Resolved*, That the prayer of Caleb Schmidlapp Commandery, No. 22, be granted, and that its name be and is hereby changed to Madison Commandery, No. 22, and that the said change be by the Grand Recorder noted on the charter.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by the Grand Commander. Our proceedings of 1872 are acknowledged and reviewed.

R. E. Edwin D. Palmer was elected Grand Commander, and Sir John M. Bramwell re-elected Grand Recorder.

IOWA.

The tenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State of Iowa was held at Des Moines 21st October, 1873, R. E. Sir Buren R. Sherman, Grand Commander.

The resolution adopted in 1871, providing that the Grand Commander should not be eligible for re-election, which met with the severe condemnation not only of ourselves, but many of our confreres, was repealed—another testimonial to the value of these reports.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by our friend, Sir E. A. Guilbert, and he sends us a special copy of it, with many typographical errors corrected in pencil, and with a letter, stating that he does so because he had not time to read the proofs, or, rather, lacked the opportunity, and beseeches us not to be too hard upon him. The whole document is written in apparent fear and trembling of the criticisms that he expects to be showered upon it by the corps reportorial; notwithstanding, it is a very admirable report, and one in every way worthy of its writer; we regret that we cannot give it the more extended notice which it fully deserves. Our proceedings of 1872 and 1873 are both acknowledged and reviewed. We quote his conclusion:

Fratres, the duty devolved upon me is now performed. The long, stately, and brilliant procession of Templars has passed by, the review is ended, the parade is dismissed. I have given you a vivid and detailed-filled picture of Templarism and its grave concerns; a picture full of figures—*unmagnified*, but natural in size—of merely ornamental and of really useful Grand Officers; of the “general utility” and the “heavy men,” the “walking gentlemen” and “light comedians” of the worshipful guild of Bohemians, the refrain of whose every song is, “You tickle me, and I’ll tickle you.” I hope the picture will please you, and certainly it will profit you to glance at, and perhaps to study it; but if you find it neither pleasant nor profitable, I shall consider it your misfortune and not your fault, and shall, in all Knightly courtesy, accept your suave apology and unconcernedly travel on. But joking, *avaunt!* In the terse and timely words of Turner, of Wisconsin, “I ask the Grand Commandery what are its lessons? Do these reports show that the Knights Templar of the United States are engaged in acts of pure beneficence, or do they show that we have spent our time and money in vain display, forgetting our duty to the helpless widow, the innocent maiden, the orphan, and the Christian religion? Let the conscience of each Knight make answer.” And with these warning sentences, I bid you, fratres—both of Iowa and the guild—an affectionate hail and good-bye.

R. E. Buren R. Sherman, Grand Commander, and Sir W. B. Langridge, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

KANSAS.

A special conclave of the Grand Commandery of Kansas was held at Leavenworth City, 8th May, 1873, R. E. Sir John H. Browne, Grand Commander. Sundry Grand Representatives were received, and among others, V. E. Sir John M. Price, Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana.

The Grand Commandery adjourned until the day following, May 9th, Ascension Day, when, upon motion, it was resolved that the Grand Commandery proceed in a body to the First Methodist Church and there attend to the proper devotional exercises of the day, which was accordingly done. A very eloquent oration was delivered by Rev. Sir J. Boynton. After the ceremonies, the Sir Knights and the ladies participated in a sumptuous banquet, during which a magnificent silver set was presented to Past

Grand Commander Sir William O. Gould, and the following original poem was read from Sir Orin Root, Jr., Grand Captain General of Missouri :

THEN AND NOW.

On many a sun-cursed Orient field,
By many an olden wall,
In rocky defiles, where lay concealed
The foemen, listening for the call
Of desperate strife to come ;

In shattered breach, where valor pressed
Some leagured town to win ;
Or where defeat, full sore confessed
The legions worn and thin,
Had need of strength to save ;

Where'er were dangers to be braved,
And man must do or die,
The Cross' bright banner foremost waved,
And clearest rang the Templars' cry,
" *Notre Dame a la rescousse !*"

Not ours the fight by tower and field ;
Not ours the armored strife ;
The warring weapons we must wield
Are of the heart and life.
Our field, humanity's broad plain ;
Our bulwarks, faith and love ;
Our foes, dark evil's myriad train ;
Our guide, the Cross above.
Of old, stout hearts nerved valiant arms :
We need stout hearts to-day.
Of old, each Knight, at war's alarms,
Sprang eager to the fray :
To-day, wherever ill betides
The pure and just and true,
Wherever fortified wrong abides,
Should we the strife renew.

Grace be with all of Templar vow,
To strive as they of old !
And be the Cross, as erst, so now,
The sign of joy foretold.

The Fourth Annual Conclave was held at Leavenworth City, twenty-first May, 1873. The Grand Commander, in his address, discourses in regard to costume as follows :

TEMPLAR COSTUME.

This vexed question seems to be agitating the minds of many of our leading Templars in America, and particularly so since our M. E. Grand Master Fellows, in his wisdom, has deemed it highly proper to issue the famous order, known as No. 3, wherein he very justly declares the only lawful costume to be worn by Knights Templar on proper occasions, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, is that adopted under the Rule of 1862 ; all others having been repealed. On account of the issue of this order, much unnecessary (as we think) discussion has arisen, especially among the Sir Knights who seem to retain the old black costume recog-

nized under the rule of 1859, and continue to wear it even now, notwithstanding the Grand Encampment rule to the contrary. I am pleased to say this order does not in any respect affect any Sir Knight in Kansas. The Sir Knights in Kansas are *strictly loyal*. This Grand Commandery has never deemed it necessary to take any formal action upon the question of uniform, believing it had been fixed, and rightly so, by the Grand Encampment; and it only remained for us to *obey orders*. The first four of the Subordinate Commanderies in this jurisdiction were organized and set to work under Charters granted by the Grand Encampment, and the costume prescribed by the rule of 1862 was adopted and used, and a strict compliance was required in the admission of candidates for the Orders of Knighthood.

I sincerely regret that there should be any misunderstanding among the different Grand Commanderies, or any Subordinate Commandery, working under authority from the Grand Encampment, in reference to the enforcement of the rule of 1862, and the order of the M. E. Grand Master in relation thereto. Having always been an ardent advocate of uniformity, I have given the subject of costume much thought, and have taken great pains to examine, as far as I could, the various authorities touching the matter in question, and the legislation on the subject. I am free to confess, that I am unable to see how the Grand Master could have otherwise done than issue the order, and remain faithful to the high trust reposed in him. Those of you who were at Baltimore in 1871, will, no doubt, remember that an effort was made by the friends of the rule of 1859, to have it again recognized as the rule of the Grand Encampment; but, fortunately for the good of the Order, it signally failed. There were but few who supported the movement. I had entertained the hope that the decisive manner in which the Grand Encampment disposed of the matter would put an end to any further agitation. In concluding this subject, I must say I most heartily approve the order of the Grand Master, and characterize it as timely and wise, and just what should have been done by some of his predecessors.

Subsequently the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery heartily endorse Order No. 3, on the subject of uniform of a Knight Templar, made by the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, December 30, 753, and published by the Very Eminent Grand Recorder on the same day; and request the Right Eminent Grand Commander to enforce the same in this Grand Jurisdiction.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir William O. Gould. Our proceedings for 1872 and 1873 are both very courteously reviewed.

R. E. Sir John M. Price was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Erasmus T. Carr re-elected Grand Recorder.

KENTUCKY.

The twenty-sixth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky was held in the city of Newport, 9th July, 1873, R. E. Sir William H. Warren, Grand Commander. Among his decisions we note the following :

Each Commandery is the proper judge of the time necessary to elapse between the rejection of an applicant and his second application.

The following report of the committee on the doings of Grand Officers was much commended, and points out, we think, a very serious evil which could be easily avoided.

Your Committee to whom was referred the Reports of the Grand officers, beg leave to make their report, as follows :

That they have carefully considered the subjects referred to them, and while they admire the sentiments expressed by the Eminent Sir Knights

yet it appears from the record that their visits to the Subordinate Commanderies have been "like angels' visits, few and far between." Your Committee express the hope that this negligence may not be taken as a precedent by the present Grand Officers.

We can hardly overstate the importance of this matter of official visitation. It corrects and makes uniform the work, it gives an opportunity for the exchange of courtesies and fraternal greetings, and it animates and encourages the Sir Knights in every duty.

We give the following as being interesting to the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction, showing that steps are already being taken by our fratres of other jurisdictions for their approaching visit to this city, to which they will be gladly welcomed, and as admonishing us to be on the *qui vive*, that their reception shall not be less hearty than that which they have received in other sister cities:

Your Committee appointed at the last Grand Conclave to report on the propriety and expenses of providing a suitable banner for this Grand Commandery, have performed the duty assigned them and now fraternally report that an appropriate banner should, in their opinion, be procured for this Grand Body; that the time is rapidly approaching when the Grand Encampment of the United States will hold its next meeting in New Orleans; judging from the meeting in Baltimore in September, 1871, this Grand Commandery will probably be present as a body; and that in this event, the Grand Commandery should by all means be provided with a suitable banner.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by our old friend, Sir William C. Munger, who reviews our proceedings of 1873.

R. E. Sir Henry Bostwick was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Wm. C. Munger re-elected Grand Recorder.

MAINE.

The twenty-second annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Maine was held at Portland, 8th May, 1873, R. E. Sir Henry H. Dickey, Grand Commander. His address is devoted to a detail of his official duties, and to the announcement that he had prohibited commanderies of other jurisdictions from parading in the State of Maine in any other than the regular uniform.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir Josiah H. Drummond. Our proceedings of 1873 are very courteously reviewed. In reply to our remarks relative to the recognition of Red Cross Knights made in councils of Royal and Select Masters in Canada, he sets forth the action of the Grand Encampment at its last conclave, as follows. In reply to his question at the conclusion of his remarks, we have only to say that we suppose the matter must necessarily be brought before the next Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment, and be there definitely settled:

As the Grand Encampment did act upon the subject, it is important to have that action revised at the next Grand Conclave, if it was wrong; and therefore we state it briefly.

While Sir W. Hubbard was Grand Master, he made a treaty with the Grand Prior of Canada, and gave him power to issue the necessary authority to communicate this order in Canada. Grand Master Gardner decided that the manner of communicating it was, under the treaty, wholly within the power of the Grand Prior to determine. That officer having

vested this authority in Councils of R. and S. Masters (whose candidates must be Royal Arch Masons), Sir Knight Gardner held that we are bound to recognize Knights created under this authority as we had before recognized those made under the same authority, in a different manner, and the Grand Encampment confirmed the decision. See Proceedings of Grand Encampment for 1871, p p. 101, 102, 103 and 233.

Until that treaty is abrogated, we can come to no other conclusion than that reached by Sir Knight Gardner, and to which we assented in Grand Conclave, as a member of the committee to whom the matter was referred, our associates being Sir Knights Simons, Dean, Gouley and Frizzell.

We trust Sir Knight Hornor will examine the matter fully, and ascertain what the Grand Encampment did decide, and tell us whether we are not bound to recognize such Red Cross Knights, or else to abrogate the treaty and reverse the action of the Grand Encampment.

We regret that our Very Eminent Sir Knight retires from his position as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. The following is his farewell address :

CONCLUSION.

For reasons given in the Grand Commandery, and which it is not necessary to repeat here, the writer has resigned his position upon this Committee. This is his ninth report. During the time he has served, Templar Masonry has prospered beyond parallel. There have been as many Knights created during the past two years as there were in all, when he commenced this service. The importance of the questions which have arisen for discussion has been commensurate with the growth of the Order. To have taken a part in these discussions for so long a time is a piece of good fortune that rarely happens to one man, and we have no hesitation in expressing our deep regret that we felt obliged to resign.

To our co-laborers in this field, we have no words to express our feelings. Their courtesy, kindness and affection have made our labor emphatically one of love. We deem no place in the whole range of masonic official station more honorable, more useful or more pleasing, and to have secured the respect and good will of so many associates in this responsible work is an ample reward.

To the Order in general, we repeat our caution against intemperance and the kindred vices, and the existing tendency to substitute the *show* of Templarism for its *substance*. In yielding to the demand for these outward demonstrations, we attract to us those who care only for display, and repel those who practice our principles. In the early days of our Order, the Sir Knight devoted his time, his fortune and his life to the cause which he had espoused. No holiday soldier was he, but clad in mailed armor, carefully kept bright, he upheld our banner in the hardest fought fields the world has ever seen. The pursuit of wealth, the allurements of pleasure, the smiles of beauty were alike unavailing to turn him from the path of duty, or lead him to violate his vow or betray his trust. Yet we are engaged in a nobler warfare, but are not called upon to make a tithe of the sacrifices which those, whose name we bear, were wont to make willingly, and even gladly. We do not seek our foes on the burning sands of Palestine, nor does our armor weary us with its weight: our foes more dangerous than the Saracen are all around us, and our armor may be kept bright by use. If we will imitate, in some small degree even, the example of the founders of the Order, we shall achieve success, not complete indeed, but worthy of the cause in which we are engaged. But so far as wealth, or pleasure, or beauty allures us from this warfare, just so much is our success diminished, and to that degree do we violate our vow and betray our trust. Therefore,

"Onward, Christian Soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before.
Christ, the Royal Master,
Leads against the foe.
Forward into battle,
See, His banners go,"

The following resolutions were adopted and need no further remark from us, as our Grand Commandery has taken action upon the same. We cannot help remarking, however, in this connection that the whole strength of the resolutions lies in the third of the series ; it is simply an appeal by a small minority that they should be exempted from being governed by the wishes of a large majority ; we cannot see how such a request can ever be granted, and, at the same time, the welfare of the body corporate at large be preserved.

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery respectfully protests against the M. E. Grand Master's Order No. 3, which, directly after the meeting of the Grand Encampment, to which the question was not submitted, abolished, by decision, the right to wear the black uniform in certain old Commanderies, which right was guaranteed them by special resolution when a regulation uniform was first adopted, and which, they claim, has never been repealed, which opinion is apparently confirmed by the action of the Grand Encampment and successive Grand Masters for over ten years.

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery respectfully petitions the Grand Encampment to assign to the respective Grand Commanderies the right to prescribe the uniform each within its own jurisdiction.

Resolved, That our Sister Grand Commanderies be requested to join us in this request, and that we appeal to their high sense of chivalry not to allow the rights of the weak to be trampled upon by the strong.

R. E. John W. Ballou was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Ira Berry re-elected Grand Recorder.

MARYLAND.

The third annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Maryland was held at Baltimore, May fourteenth, 1873, Sir Charles K. Mann, R. E. Grand Commander. He reports the following in regard to the Grand Master's order in relation to uniform.

I am also pleased to report, that Order No. 3 of the Grand Master of Templars of the United States, has been generally obeyed, the only exception, being the Sir Knights who do not, or cannot give their attendance to the meetings of their Commanderies. 'Tis true, many good and true Knights did not like the Order, but their objections were based on the mistaken idea, that the Grand Master had no jurisdiction in the premises. To those I would say, the Constitution of the Grand Encampment has made it "the special duty of the Grand Master to have a watchful supervision over all the Commanderies, Grand and Subordinate, in the United States, and to see that all the Constitutional enactments, rules, and edicts of the Grand Encampment are promptly observed, and that the dress, work, and discipline of Templar Masonry everywhere, are uniform." On this he promulgated his Order, and by it we must be governed, until the Grand Encampment shall change the edict, or overrule his decision.

We think the following is a very good decision :

I have also decided that a blank ticket cannot be counted as a vote in the result for the ballot for officers. This decision I base on the fact that in balloting for members, Masonic rule requires every brother to express his preference by voting for or against : in depositing a blank ticket, the principle is ignored.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir Herman L. Emmons, Jr., a long and interesting report. None of our proceedings are noticed ; we cannot understand how they failed to reach him.

R. E. Sir Francis Lincoln was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Frank J. Kuzler re-elected Grand Recorder.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.

The semi-annual assembly of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island was held at Boston, May 29th, 1872, R. E. Sir Nicholas Van Slyck, Grand Commander. In his address he thus refers to the uniform question :

There are many matters of interest that have been referred to this assembly for consideration, and which it is sincerely hoped will now be decided. That of the greatest importance, is the matter of "Regalia,"—a subject that is justly receiving consideration throughout the United States, and that from Grand and Subordinate bodies as well as eminent knights. The Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island has not spoken. To us are very many looking, and our voice will carry with it a weight that it is believed will go far toward the settlement of this question. The views of your Grand Commander entirely accord with the decision of the late M. E. Grand Master of Templars as expressed by him officially, while Grand Master, not only because he has *so decided*, but because the history of this subject renders it difficult to come to any other conclusion. This decision is now before a committee of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and will be passed upon by the United States Grand Encampment at its next triennial. It is to be deprecated that the question of the effect of the action of the assembly of 1862, upon the subject of regalia, could not have been allowed to rest upon the decision of Grand Master Gardner, at least, until the Grand Body approved or disapproved thereof. I will not urge this matter further, as I hope to have a report from the very able committee that has this subject before it.

The Grand Commander also quoted in his address a long poem on modern chivalry, from the pen of Sir B. P. Shillaber (Mrs. Partington), which covers five pages of the proceedings; its length prevents us from quoting it.

The Committee which had been appointed in May, 1872, on the costume and regalia, and to whom General Order No. 3 of the Grand Master had been referred, and to whom further time had more than once been granted, on motion of one of its members procured the addition of two to the committee, and the Grand Master accordingly nominated Sir Charles W. Moore and Sir Winslow Lewis, the other members of the committee being Past Grand Master William S. Gardner, R. E. Sir William. W. Baker, Past Grand Commander, and Sirs Thomas A. Doyle and John Aldred. The committee subsequently reported that they had not yet had opportunity to consult and advise with their new members, and asked that they be allowed to report in print to the Grand Commander on or before the 1st of September following, which was granted. The committee further recommended a resolution, which was adopted, prohibiting any of the grand officers of the Grand Commandery from passing or transmitting any order, decree or direction of any kind relative to costume and regalia. This seems to us to be setting at defiance the officers of the Grand Encampment of the United States and their orders, which the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island and its officers are bound not only to transmit, but to obey.

At the annual conclave held October 31st, 1873, the same committee reported that they were not prepared to report, and further time was necessarily granted. All these actions seem to us to simply mean that the

Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island will not obey the order of the Grand Master, and will hold the same under advisement until the next Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment. If this example is to be followed, it will simply be a precedent by which any order hereafter issued by any Grand Master can be nullified and held for naught, until it is affirmed by the Grand Encampment, which practically means that there is no authority worth recognizing during the recess of the Grand Encampment.

In his address at the Annual Conclave, the Grand Commander reports the following correspondence between himself and the Grand Master, which seems to confirm the views we have already expressed :

“ORDER NO. 3.”

Since the semi-annual assembly and in due course of mail, I received the following letter from the M. E. Grand Master of Templars in the United States :

GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER.
NEW ORLEANS, June 8th, 1873.

Sir Nicholas Van Slyck, Grand Commander of Massachusetts and Rhode Island:

DEAR SIR AND FRATER—I have to call your attention to order No. 3, from these headquarters, relative to uniform and dress. I hear it is not observed in your jurisdiction. The only excuse I have ever heard for non-compliance with the order or non-conformance to the edict of 1862, of the Grand Encampment relative to uniform, is the exemption under the resolution of 1859. If my information is correct none of the commanderies in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, except the first nine, in age can claim exemption under that resolution, even supposing it still in force. Does even your own commandery come under the exemption?

I would be pleased to hear from you in this regard at your earliest convenience. Courteously and truly yours,

J. Q. A. FELLOWS,
Grand Master.

Which communication I answered as follows :

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLARS AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.
OFFICE OF R. E. GRAND COMMANDER.
PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 16, 1873.

Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, M. E. Grand Master of Templars :

DEAR SIR AND M. E. FRATER—Yours of June 8th, A. D. 1873, was duly received, and in reply state that “Order No. 3” was referred by me to the R. E. Grand Commandery in May, A. D. 1872, and I expressed my wish in reference thereto in my semi-annual address, whereupon the whole matter was referred to a very competent committee, with M. E. Past Grand Master Gardner at the head. Again in October, at the annual assembly, I called attention to the matter, and by reference to our abstracts of proceedings you will find what I said upon the subject (pages 20 and 94).

There was no action at the annual assembly upon this matter, the committee being continued to the semi-annual of last month. At that time the committee was enlarged, and now consists of Gardner, Dean, Baker, Moore, Lewis, all Past Grand Masters, or commanders, as also Doyle and Eldred, eminent templars. That committee made a partial report upon the subject committed to them, and are instructed to report to the Grand Commander in writing before September, so that the report may be printed and distributed prior to our annual assembly.

You will see that as yet I am without instructions upon this subject, but

trust soon to be able to receive such action as will indicate the will of the Grand Body. You will, however, permit me to say, that all commanderies in Rhode Island, chartered since 1859, wear the U. S. regulation regalia, MY OWN among the number. This is not, however, true in Massachusetts, although there are commanderies wearing the U. S. regulation regalia.

When the committee reports I will send you a copy of the report as soon as printed. You will perhaps remember that this Grand Commandery did not recognize the right of the Grand Encampment to change the nomenclature formerly existing, but in order to be in harmony with other Grand Bodies, of its own accord, changed the same. It will, if let alone, do right in this matter, but will not be coerced.

I am courteously and truly yours,

N. VAN SLYCK, Grand Commander.

To this communication I have received no reply; and, therefore, presume the same to be entirely satisfactory.

We thoroughly agree with the Grand Commander in the following:

There is in some commanderies a laxity in reference to the appearance of their members in the asylum, so far as regards the proper dress to be worn is concerned. It should not be permitted to any person to be present at any assembly, unless clothed in regalia, save and except for cause shown, such person is thereunto permitted by the commander. This laxity has caused some commanders a considerable annoyance, and so far they have failed to find a complete remedy.

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence.

R. E. Sir Charles A. Stott was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Alfred F. Chapman re-elected Grand Recorder.

The volume before us contains portraits and interesting biographical sketches of the Junior Past Grand Commander, Sir Nicholas Van Slyck; R. E. Sir Thomas Smith Webb, first Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island; R. E. Sir Charles W. Moore; R. E. Sir Winslow Lewis; R. E. Sir William Eliason, and R. E. Sir William W. Baker, Past Grand Masters of the said Grand Encampment, and are beautifully executed works of art, and make the volume a very attractive one.

MICHIGAN.

The seventeenth annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Michigan was held in the city of Grand Rapids, June 3d, 1873, R. E. Sir O. L. Spaulding, Grand Commander.

We learn from the address of the Grand Commander that the Order of the Temple is not allowed to be conferred in that jurisdiction, without provision first having been made by the candidate for his uniform—that is, that he has previously procured it himself, or insured it by a deposit with the Recorder; a most admirable regulation, one that we would be glad to see adopted here. The Grand Commander also recommends the adoption of our rule, that the Orders be not conferred upon a candidate until he has been in possession of the necessary preceding degrees, at least six months.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir William P. Innes, and our proceedings of 1872 are reviewed.

R. E. Sir E. J. Garfield was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Wm. P. Jones re-elected Grand Recorder.

MISSISSIPPI.

The thirteenth annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Mississippi, was held at Jackson, 27th May, 1873, R. E. Sir E. J. Delap, Grand Commander. Without coinciding in his views, we quote the following opinion, taken from the Grand Commander's address, relative to balloting-

I courteously recommend that Art. X of the By-Laws for Subordinate Commanderies be so amended as to allow the Commanderies to exercise their own discretion as to how they will vote upon petitions for the Orders, whether by ballot, *viva voce*, or by a salute. I do not believe that a ballot box has any business in a Commandery of Knights Templar, but while I, and many others, may be of this opinion, we do not desire to compel those who may differ with us on this subject, to adopt our views or to be governed by our wishes. If there is any place outside of Heaven where a free and untrammelled expression of opinion ought to be exercised with reference to the worth and worthiness of candidates, that place is an Asylum of Knights Templar. I am satisfied that the Order at large would be greatly benefited if the merits and demerits of candidates for its sacred mysteries and high honors were made a subject of free discussion.

The Grand Commander recommended that the Grand Commandery should not allow the withdrawal of the Order of the Red Cross from the control of the Commandery, to be relegated to the Grand Council, and upon the report of a committee, it was concurred in by the Grand Commandery. The same committee recommended, however, that the reception of the degrees of Royal and Select Master should be a prerequisite to receiving the Orders in the Commandery, but we are told that after an interesting discussion the resolution to that effect was withdrawn.

The Grand Commander submitted, for the information and guidance of the Grand Commandery, Order No. 3 of the Grand Master, relative to uniform, and pleads guilty to the charge of misfeasance for not having long ago promulgated the Order, and excuses himself on the ground that the same could not be enforced on account of the financial weakness of the different Commanderies, and that they had no positive assurance that the Grand Encampment of the United States would not change it at its next Conclave. He further says that the edict does not affect Commanderies until they obtain a new outfit. We are glad to see that the committee to whom this portion of his address was referred, differed with him on all these subjects, and reported that all the Subordinate Commanderies should, as speedily as circumstances would admit, conform to the Order No. 3, which was adopted.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir P. M. Savory, and our proceedings of 1872 are acknowledged and reviewed.

R. E. E. T. Henry was elected Grand Commander, and Sir J. L. Power re-elected Grand Recorder.

MISSOURI.

The thirteenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Missouri was held at St. Louis, October seventh, 1873, R. E. Orin Root, Grand Commander. He made the following decisions relative to objections, and we agree in all of them except the last:

An objection is *to be made after election*, and when made previous to the ballot it is wholly invalid.

The right of objection is one of great importance, yet it must be properly guarded.

An objection may be made to the reception of a petition. This prevents its reception.

An objection may be made to the reception of a committee's report. This refers the report back to the committee for further investigation. If the petition be received and the committee report, then the objection takes the form of the ballot.

After a ballot, an objection is the only means by which an improper candidate can be prevented from advancement.

Each of these objections has its proper time, and if improperly presented is invalid.

When an objection is made after ballot and election, the name of the objector must appear upon the records.

We are glad to read his views, short as they are, but wholly to the point and prophetic in their utterance, relative to uniform :

In the matter of uniform, I am glad to approve the Order No. 3, of Eminent Grand Master Fellows. The beauty of our Templar costume should not be marred by over-ornament, or its effect injured by want of uniformity. Grand Master Fellows has surely done only his duty in the premises, and no doubt the Grand Triennial of '74 will sustain him.

The following action was taken by the Grand Commandery relative to the resolutions of the Grand Commandery of Maine :

That so much of the address as refers to the resolutions of the Grand Commandery of Maine, in relation to Order No. 3, of Eminent Grand Master Fellows, be laid upon the table.

A special committee reported in favor of making the degrees of Royal and Select Master prerequisite to the orders of Knighthood, and to memorialize the Grand Encampment to that end. The report was postponed for further consideration until the next Conclave.

The following resolution may be important to us as providing an authority on the subject :

Resolved, That two or more Commanderies appearing in public in this jurisdiction for parade, shall take position in line according to date of Charter: the senior Commandery on the right, the junior Commandery on the left.

Considering the part that we took at the time relative to the resolutions adopted by the Grand Commandery of Missouri on the subject of the ritual of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, we feel it to be our bounden duty to quote the following preamble and resolution in full, expressing our great pleasure in being able to do so, and trusting that no cause of disagreement between the two Rites in this country will ever again arise :

WHEREAS, In 1867, the Grand Commandery of Missouri did, in consideration of certain portions of the ritual of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, pass certain preamble and resolutions forbidding all Knights Templar in this Grand Jurisdiction from being present at or assisting in conferring certain degrees in the above rite ; and, *whereas*, the said Ancient and Accepted Rite, having expunged from its ritual all objectionable portions,

Therefore be it resolved by this Grand Commandery, That the said resolutions of 1867 be and are hereby repealed, and all Knightly and amicable relations extended to the brethren and Sir Knights who may also be members of that rite.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is, of course, by our dear friend, Sir George Frank Gouley. He calls it a skeleton report, and that is its right name. It is a worse report than he ever wrote, than Corson ever wrote, or that we ever wrote, and that is giving it about as bad a name as it would be possible to attach to it. It is utterly, thoroughly and terribly miserable. There is nothing in it to quote from, and we have merely to dismiss it with the remark that our proceedings of 1872 are acknowledged. He says he presumes that we will "give us fits for this shrunk affair of ours this year," and that we would not be hard upon him if we knew all the circumstances. We have tried our best to give him fits, and we think we have succeeded; if we have not said anything more about him and his "skeleton report," we have only to say in extenuation that we could not do justice to it in the English language.

R. E. Sir John Ure was elected Grand Commander, and Sir George Frank Gouley re-elected Grand Recorder.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of New Hampshire was held at Concord, on September 24, 1872. The Grand Recorder of this Grand Commandery spells it without an e, in the next to the last syllable, making "dry" work of it, and he catches it severely from Drummond on that account, and we hope the lesson will have its intended effect and prevent him from doing it again. Drummond's remarks on the subject are so good that we cannot help quoting them:

This Body calls itself a Grand Commandry. We at first supposed it was a mis-print on the cover of the Proceedings, but the word is spelled thus in every instance in which it occurs, and on referring to former years, we find it was used two years ago, part of the time, and last year generally. We object to it for many reasons: one, because it will give rise to a set of execrable puns. We shall have Corson calling on Sir Knight Harris to change it from "Come-and-dry" to "Come-and-moisten," and Harris will respond that Corson has failed to discover the *occult* meaning of the term, which is the pass-word of another Order existing in the White Mountain State, and should be pronounced "Come-and-rye!"

We should not be surprised, however, if somebody up there has an etymological report already written to prove beyond a doubt that they have the only simon pure right way of spelling the word.

R. E. Sir John D. Peterson, Grand Commander, presided, and his address is devoted entirely to local topics.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again by Sir Joseph W. Fellows; it is a very interesting and valuable report. Our proceedings of 1872 are received and acknowledged.

R. E. Sir Abel Hutchins was elected Grand Commander, and Sir John A. Harris re-elected Grand Recorder.

NEW JERSEY.

The fifteenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey was held in Trenton, 9th September, 1873, R. E. Sir Jerome B. Borden, Grand Commander.

We find present all of our old friends, and the Grand Commandery was very fully attended.

The Grand Commander thus discourses in regard to uniform :

Perhaps it is not necessary for me to say much upon this subject, but will say that I have worn the Black Costume, and may still be classed among those who believe it to be more appropriate to our Order than the present incongruous trappings and gewgaws; but we of New Jersey are loyal to the Grand Encampment, and recognize none of those wild doctrines which induce men to set up for themselves, and, believing that "order that is Heaven's first law," we render unhesitating obedience to official mandates. No man should be too wise, or headstrong, to submit cheerfully to the decisions and decrees of constituted authority. We do not consider that if the Grand Master even chooses to sit in the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment in violation of the edict of 1862, that we are exonerated from *our* duty. If the Costume adopted by the Grand Encampment in 1862 is distasteful, I can conceive of no better remedy than to attend the next Triennial Grand Conclave, and substitute for it a Costume better adapted to our Order.

The proceedings are entirely of a local character.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by our inimitable friend, Sir Thomas J. Corson. It is like his usual reports, full of fun, sparkling, and with a great deal of sound wisdom. We have not time or space to quote from him as we should desire, or to return the courtesy of giving him eight pages of this review for that number that he gives to ours. Our proceedings of 1873 are attended to. He quotes from our report and generally approvingly. He does not like our views relative to the one term principle, and thinks we are mistaken in believing that when we find a good presiding officer we ought to keep him. The one term doctrine has always been held in force in New Jersey, we believe, and they certainly have no reason to complain of its workings in that jurisdiction, but we cannot conceive that this is an argument against propositions that we based our opinion upon, in our last report; it is only fair to show, however, how summarily he disposes of us on this subject :

Such *ad captandum* arguments may answer in the practice of law, but they have no influence in Masonry, which latter institution is governed by common sense. For more reasons than we have space to give, we adopt and advocate the "one term" principle for presiding officers of Masonic Grand Bodies. If there exists upon the face of the globe any Masonic Grand Body which has but *one* man who is competent to preside, it would be better that it should close its doors, and open shop as an Asylum for Imbeciles. But we do not believe that such a state of affairs exists in any Masonic Grand Body in this, or any other country.

The following fearful warning is held out to us, of which we beg an explanation, not having been knowingly guilty of any crime in the premises :

We would inform Sir Joseph, this Knight of the Pelican, that for endeavoring to incite riot between Sir Hopkins, of Pennsylvania, and ourselves, he will be held to answer before the Syndicate of Reporters at Nashville, in 1874.

From the conclusion of the report, we find that our friend has been suffering from a very severe attack of a disease of the eyes, and that his report has been wholly written by his two daughters and two nieces, not one of whom had attained to the advanced age of sweet sixteen. We

hope that the succeeding year will find our brother able to do his own writing.

R. E. Sir William McIlhanney was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Thomas J. Corson re-elected Grand Recorder.

NEW YORK.

The sixtieth annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New York, was held in the city of Newburg, 14th October, 1873, R. E. Sir Frank Louis Stowell, Grand Commander. The address is very interesting, and a very complete compilation of the official actions of the head of the largest Grand Commandery in our country.

In compliance with the request of the Grand Master, the Grand Commander had prepared the statistical tables required by that officer, and gives them in full in his address. It shows the total number of members, as far as the reports have been received, to be 6256, of whom 3620 were equipped. The largest Commandery is Utica Commandery, No. 3, 387 members, every one of whom are reported to be fully equipped. The largest average attendance at any one Commandery was 80, of Manhattan Commandery, No. 31.

The Grand Commander notices and quotes in full the resolutions of the Grand Commandery of Maine, and makes the following appropriate remarks thereupon, which need no further comment from us :

Upon which I feel it a duty to remark that, in the first place, nothing can be more in violation of our recognized principles than a protest against the lawful action of a duly constituted majority. During the recess the Grand Master is of necessity clothed with the executive authority of the Grand Encampment, and it is especially made his duty to see that the uniform ritual and drill are everywhere the same. It will be seen that the first resolution merely asserts that a certain resolution has never been repealed ; and on this slender basis the ground for a protest is taken.

The resolution in question—that of 1859—was never intended to leave it optional with Commanders to obey the law as to uniform or not, as might be convenient, but only to give a reasonable opportunity to discard the old, and comply with the standard regulation. But in 1862 a new uniform was adopted, and with it there is no qualifying regulation. It is declared to be the standard uniform of a Knight Templar throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment ; and we have nothing to do but to obey the law, as we have all promised to do, or quit the Order. I am quite certain that this Grand Commandery will not allow itself to be ranked among those who, after taking upon themselves a solemn vow, are willing to place that vow in one scale, and a mere untenable quibble in the other, when the question arises, " Shall we obey the law, or follow our own inclinations ? " As, among the strongest, our " sense of Chivalry will not permit us to allow the rights of the weak to be trampled upon," when we are called to decide ; it must be apparent that what is *claimed* to be *right*, is, in reality, an open refusal of obedience to duly constituted authority. Your past record demonstrates that you cannot and will not join in the request before you.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by our friend, Sir John W. Simons. We take the following paragraphs from his opening :

With each succeeding year, the banner of the Order is being planted on the walls of some station where it has not hitherto waved, and day by day

the influence and protection of the National Organization is being acknowledged as the true method and compact of successful existence.

We mark with infinite regret the indisposition in one or two State jurisdictions to comply with the law of the Grand Encampment, in relation to uniform, more special reference to which will be found in the subjoined text. We indulge the hope that the great majority of Grand Commanderies will not only resist any change, but stand firmly together in the enforcement of the law as it is.

Our proceedings of 1873 are very courteously reviewed, and we feel obliged to quote the following remarks upon our last report :

New York receives ample and courteous notice at his hands. After quoting from our report what we said in relation to the greater tranquility of the meeting of the Grand Encampment at New Orleans, he remarks :

"We trust to be able to disappoint him so far as the tranquility of the New Orleans meeting is concerned, and guarantee that *he* shall have a time here if nobody else does."

Which is all the more pleasant, because we know that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh ; that these are no idle words of compliment, but the expression of a love that passeth the world's understanding.

In his review of New Hampshire he dissents from the practice obtaining in that jurisdiction of allowing Past Grand Officers to appear by proxies, as follows :

We notice that in this jurisdiction, Past Grand Commanders are allowed to appear by proxy, which we take to be a violation of their own Statutes as well as the Constitution of the Grand Encampment. A past official is in no sense an officer ; he has no powers, prerogatives, or duties, but only privileges accorded in acknowledgment of former service ; hence, when the Constitution says that the *officers* named therein may appear and vote by proxy, it clearly means to designate those who are actual officers, and not those who have been such, but are officers no longer.

We think that Sir Knight Simonds is mistaken in the position which he takes, and that it is expressly provided in the 2d section of Article II, of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States, relative to Grand Commanderies, that Past Grand Officers shall be allowed to appear and vote by proxy ; probably an inspection will convince him of his error.

We wish we had time and space to make more extracts from his excellent report, but can only ask him to spread it far and wide among the Sir Knights of his jurisdiction and vicinity, how glad we shall be to welcome them and him in December next.

R. E. Sir Meade Belden was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Robert McCoy re-elected Grand Recorder.

OHIO.

The thirty-first annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Ohio was held in Toledo, 2nd September, 1873, R. E. Sir Enoch T. Carson, Grand Commander. The address is a very full and complete record of the proceedings of the Grand Commander during the recess. We quote his remarks relative to costume as another indication of what will be the inevitable result at the next meeting of the Grand Encampment :

"Order No. 3," issued by Sir John Q. A. Fellows, G. Master of Knights Templar, in relation to Knights Templar's costume, referred to in my address last year, has created no little stir and excitement in some sections

of the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of the United States—one of the State Grand Commanderies having gone so far as to be almost in open rebellion. All of which is wrong, and can only result in trouble and disaster to the Grand Commandery engaged in the unequal contest, and to the general disadvantage of the Order. The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar is composed of a confederacy of delegates from all the State Commanderies. For one or two Commanderies to attempt to destroy this thoroughly organized, well-established and powerful body by secession from it, or by rebellion against its authority is worse than idle; it is not in that direction the remedy lies, if there is any grievance. As matters now stand, I should regard the forcible disruption of the G. Encampment of the United States, by secession or rebellion, as the beginning of the end of the usefulness of Templar Masonry in this country. The question is no longer whether the G. Encampment is necessary or not. We have and will have it. There will always be a Grand Encampment of the United States, either *legal* or *illegal*. Destroy the present one to-day, and we will have a *spurious one to-morrow*, issuing warrants, assuming authority over Templar Masonry throughout the United States. Anarchy will follow, and our beautiful Order will be changed from one of peace, harmony and love, to a pandemonium of discord, hatred and quarreling. We have reason to congratulate ourselves that within our jurisdiction the question of costume was long since fully settled by our Statutes and Regulations, Section 10 of Article 11 defining that “the costume of this Grand Commandery and its Subordinates is that adopted by the Grand Encampment of the United States at the fifteenth triennial meeting thereof, A. D. 1862”; and all new Commanderies formed, and Knights created, are required to give a pledge that they will conform to said uniform—the former at once, and the latter within three months. So the question of the “black dress or the white dress” does not directly concern us, and paraphrastically, but not indifferently, we may say to those who are disturbed by “Order No. 3,”

“Black dress and white dress,
Red dress and gray;
Wrangle, wrangle,
You that wrangle may.”

In conclusion on this subject, I would most earnestly urge upon the Commanders and Knights a careful study and understanding of the costume prescribed by the G. Encampment of the United States. Conform to it as nearly as possible. *Let nothing be added to it, and nothing taken away.*

Sir William M. Cunningham made the report on Foreign Communications, acknowledging and reviewing our proceedings of 1873. That we may not be accused of withholding arguments which are made against our views, we take pleasure in presenting the following remarks of our learned frater, dissenting from the position taken by us in our last report: We hardly think that a majority of the Templars of the United States will go as far as our Sir Knight of Ohio:

Your committee cannot subscribe to the views expressed by our fraters of Louisiana; as the foregoing resolutions adopted by the Grand Commandery, being, in a measure, retroactive in their operation, are contrary to the principles and spirit of Masonic Knighthood. In this connection, from the resolutions adopted, and from the report upon Foreign Correspondence, it would seem that a poor follower of the “meek and lowly Savior” has no place in the Templar Asylum, but must worship his risen Lord “from afar off,” if he is unable to clothe himself in the requisite “semi-military costume.”

The days of “symbolic sandals, scrip and staff” of the pilgrim penitent, the humble Christian and repentant sinner, must be rapidly passing away, when “military movements,” a “*desire for public display*,” and “the exhibition of our semi-military costume” constitute “*symbolic soldiers of the Cross*.” In the opinion of your committee, as the possession of the symbolic grades

of Masonry are and must be a pre-requisite to the reception of the Orders of Knighthood, we are *only Masons* of another degree; and, as Templars, are so closely connected with the Masonic institution as to be amenable to its general laws and landmarks when applicable to the grade, and cannot be considered so entirely free and independent that our own laws need not conform in spirit to those of the preceding degrees. Templarism having sought its Masonic Asylum at the time when *any display would have been incompatible with its existence*, it is like "burning the bridge that has safely carried us over" to now repudiate its Masonic characteristics, adopted or otherwise, by ignoring its laws, written or unwritten, or by disregarding the aversion of our ancient institution to the gaze of the profane or to the glare and glitter of any unnecessary public display.

R. E. Sir Enoch T. Carson, Grand Commander, and Sir James Nesbitt, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The twentieth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania was held at Meadville, 13th May, 1873, R. E. Sir Geter C. Shidle, Grand Commander. In his address he gives the General Order No. 3 of the Grand Master, with his own order promulgating the same, from which we quote the following, showing how fully and completely our fraters of Pennsylvania comply with orders promulgated for the general good of Templar Masonry throughout the Union:

By the foregoing, it will be observed that the order is so emphatic, and the description of the uniform so precise, that none may hereafter plead ignorance of the law, the R. E. Grand Commander will simply call attention to the principal points of variation in this jurisdiction:

The Templar Coat as worn in this jurisdiction by nearly all those who are equipped, will comply with the description of "black frock coats," as it is one that can be worn on any occasion, and wherever a black frock coat may be worn, and which may not cause any distinctive observation or remark whatever.

The Metal Buttons will be replaced by black lasting buttons.

The Crosses will be taken from coats of those who wear them, and

The Metallic Lace Band will be removed from the caps.

Only Commanders and Past Commanders will hereafter be permitted to wear gold where metal appears.

Particular attention is also called to the Prelate's Uniform and Robes.

The Grand Commander relies upon all, both officers and members, in seeing this order carried out fully.

We quote the following decisions, which we think embody the correct interpretation of the law:

The first three officers of a subordinate Commandery only are entitled to wear shoulder straps.

A Sir Knight cannot be suspended for non-payment of dues for a less sum than one year's dues.

The suspension of Eminent Commander deprives him of the honors and privileges of a Past Eminent Commander.

The Order of Malta is not requisite to a membership in a Commandery of Knights Templar.

It is an Appendant Order, the secrets of which every Knight Templar has a right to be informed of.

We are glad to notice the following recommendation:

I would also call your attention to the fact that the Triennial Session of the Grand Encampment of the United States meets in New Orleans, December, A. D. 1874. It would be both proper and right for this Grand Commandery to make such arrangements as would be necessary for a pilgrimage

thither. It would show our fealty to the principles we prefer, and give the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction an opportunity of enlarging the circle of their friendship, and extend the boundaries of our knightly courtesy. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend the idea to the wisdom of the Sir Knights here assembled.

It affords me great pleasure to state that Order No. 3, of the Eminent Grand Master, in regard to the proper uniform of a Knight Templar, has been most cheerfully obeyed by the Commanderies of Pennsylvania; and it is a matter of congratulation to the Fraternity that law and order reigns throughout this jurisdiction.

In accordance therewith the following committee was appointed to make arrangements for the visit of the Pennsylvania Commanderies to New Orleans at the Triennial Convention in 1874 :

R. E. Sir Geter C. Shidle, E. Sir Robert Klotz, E. Sir Edward S. Keeler, E. Sir William H. Eagle, of No. 34, E. Sir George W. Kendrick, Jr.

We shall be glad to co-operate here with that committee, as far as lies within our power, and all we have to ask them is that they will leave no stone unturned to bring to New Orleans every Knight Templar of Pennsylvania that can possibly be spared. We also notice that this committee was appointed to inquire as to the possibility and expediency of the Knights of that State who propose attending the Grand Encampment at New Orleans, uniting in an excursion by chartering an ocean or river steamer, or to come by railway, and we have to suggest to our confreres of other jurisdictions, that similar committees might possibly be of great value to them. The access to New Orleans by water, both by ocean and river conveyance, is easier than probably that of any other large city in the Union, and for large bodies of Templars who propose to attend the Grand Encampment in December next, probably no cheaper mode of conveyance could be had than the chartering of an ocean or river steamer for that purpose.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again by Sir James H. Hopkins, and is in his usual brilliant style; we are glad to see it does not purport to be his last. He has our proceedings of 1872, which he complains give him very little to "cuss or discuss." He says that our Grand Body is not grand by virtue of the majesty of its numbers, the extent of its jurisdiction, or the importance of its proceedings, and after knocking us down with a clap like that, lets us off easy, by saying that he finds Templarism here compressed in all its vital and ennobling principles within a small compass. We trust to be able to circumscribe a circle around him with that same compass wide enough for him to pursue any devious track that may suit his wayward pleasure, as per lesson inculcated in his Entered Apprentice degree, if he has not forgotten that. He says he has examined the Louisiana report on Foreign Correspondence, hoping to find something out of which to pick a quarrel, but he cannot. He does not even give us the credit of having written it, but ascribes it to some Sir Somebody, of a name unknown in this jurisdiction. His whole endeavor is, apparently, to draw us into the discussion between himself and Sir Corson, of New Jersey, with the evident wish, though unexpressed, that we might take his side of it; but we don't want Corson to write any more poetry about us, and if the said

Corson were to go for us with the same amount of poetry that he went for Hopkins with on a certain occasion, we would be overwhelmed and never be able to digest our dinner again in peace. We suppose Hopkins will do better as time rolls on, and those little circumstances occur so often, which must even exhaust the powers of the almost inexhaustible Corson.

During the Conclave Sir Rob Morris, of Kentucky, was presented to the Grand Commandery, and a resolution passed granting him permission to lecture within the jurisdiction at the request of Subordinate Commanderies.

R. E. Sir Grant Weidman was elected Grand Commander, and Sir Charles Eugene Myer re-elected Grand Recorder.

TENNESSEE.

The eleventh annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee was held at Clarksville, 13th May, 1873, R. E. Sir Joseph B. Palmer, Grand Commander. The proceedings seem to be entirely of a local character.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again by Sir George S. Blackie. Our proceedings of 1872 are kindly noticed. Relative to our report, he quotes: "He says he sees a speck of trouble in the present position of the Red Cross in Canada; so do we, and we will always see trouble until we cut loose from that mongrel degree altogether." We think that opinion is growing.

We regret that our eminent confrere ceases to be the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee, on account of leaving that jurisdiction to take up his residence in New York. As Sir Knight Simonds observes, what is Tennessee's loss is New York's gain, and we trust we may hear from our distinguished frater in his new home. In due justice to him, we present his valedictory in full:

Here we close our report, hoping that we have given such a synopsis of the past year as will instruct and satisfy the Knights. The record is a good one. Peace, harmony and mutual confidence mark our union throughout the length and breadth of our land. We firmly believe, also, that a more general and more thorough understanding of the real value of our Order is pervading not only ourselves, but also the outside world. Let us all endeavor, with the whole energy of our minds and souls and bodies, to act up to the instructions we have received, and to fight manfully with the whole armor of God against the world, the flesh and the devil! And standing united in this great work, we cannot fall.

Knights of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee! these lines will be read by you when their writer is far, far away in the distant and stern land of his birth. From the streets of "Auld Reekie," and under the shadow of the Pentland Hills, his soul will wander over to his long and happy home in Tennessee, to the friends he has made among you, whom he has loved and honored, who have loved and honored him. Your day of meeting will be a sad one to him, as he feels that he is not only then away from you, but also that he may never be one of your Conclave, except in name, again. The circumstances of his life, and the duty he owes to his family, have induced him to change his residence from your jurisdiction, and to accept a position in the City of New York. Prior to settling there, business will take him to Scotland.

His Tennessee *Home* is Home to him no more, but his heart remains with the Masonic fraternity there, and its warmest, most affectionate impulses

are called forth when he thinks of the days he has passed among you. To say what he would is impossible, but he feels that there is a silence more eloquent than words, and that the simple words "Good-bye, God bless you, my brothers," full of hope and yet of heart-break as they are, are the choicest he can employ. "May the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you, and give you peace!"

Our first "Report on Correspondence" was addressed to the Grand Commandery of Tennessee. This, our twentieth, is also hers. Perhaps we may never write another; perhaps we may write one in other jurisdictions. But none can ever be as full of apprehension as the first was, or so full of sorrow as the twentieth. Our exertions have met your favorable judgment, and we very cordially thank you.

To our "brethren of the pen" we bid, we hope, a temporary adieu. We are still one of you, and are duly elected a perpetual member of the M. A. S., with Sir Knights Corson and Drummond's full consent. But now we must stand aside and watch the tilts and triumphs of your intellects. You have been partial and complimentary to us, and we are grateful.

R. E. Sir George Mellersh was elected Grand Commander, and Sir John Frizzell was re-elected Grand Recorder.

TEXAS.

The annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Texas was held in the city of Houston, 10th June, 1872, R. E. Sir A. S. Richardson, Grand Commander. He makes the following complaint relative to his reception in New York:

A few days prior to my installation, it had been my pleasant fortune to visit Apollo Commandery, Chicago, Illinois, where I was the recipient of much Knightly courtesy, and where, by all the Sir Knights present, was manifested the most cordial fraternal feeling, not only to myself personally, but to this Grand Commandery, which I was recognized as officially representing, my entire reception being in marked contrast to the discourtesy which I received a short time previously from the officers and Sir Knights of a Commandery in New York, where I had visited in my then official capacity of Deputy Grand Commander of Texas, for the purpose of joining in some public demonstration, in which all visiting Sir Knights were invited to participate, and where I was not even recognized.

This is also noticed by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of New York (Sir John W. Simonds), who disclaims having any idea of neglecting the Grand Commander of Texas during his visit to that city, and all knowledge of his having been there. We are constrained to believe, from the way in which we have always been received in the metropolis ourselves, and from what we have heard and know of the Sir Knights there, that it was impossible any intentional discourtesy should have been shown to so illustrious a visitor as the Grand Commander of Texas, and we hope he will make proper investigation through communications with Sir Knight Simonds, or others of our New York fraters, which will clear up to his satisfaction, and also to the satisfaction of the whole order, the treatment of which he complains; for we feel certain the Sir Knights of New York would only be too glad to repair, if possible, in any way that lays in their power, any supposed discourtesy that may have been committed in their name towards any visitor, even if he were of an humble station.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Sir James B. Likens, and our proceedings of 1871 were acknowledged and reviewed.

He congratulates us on having failed to repeal our by-law providing that all applicants for the orders shall be six months Royal Arch Masons, and recommends its incorporation into the by-laws of every Commandery. We quote from his review of New Jersey the following panegyric of our friend Corson, which we are afraid our revered friend might omit from too much modesty :

We will not attempt to state the amount of pleasure derived from a perusal and a reperusal of Sir Corson's Report on Foreign Correspondence, lest the "poverty of words" be made too apparent. Suffice it to say, that the courteous Sir Knight, the thoroughly informed Templar, the genial gentleman and accomplished wit, literally beams from every one of the eighty-five pages in which it is comprised. His easy transition from "grave to gay, from lively to severe," his accurate erudition in all questions of Templar history and jurisprudence, his courteous reference and knightly bearing when he differs in judgment, his ready perception and keen appreciation of the ridiculous, and happy faculty of word painting, when he "goes for one of them fellers," the abundant evidence of the existence somewhere in his large heart of an exhaustless fountain of the "milk of human kindness," all conspire to make up a character which, in our modest judgment, is admirable in all its parts. We mean *all* we say. "Dat ish how high?"

R. E. Sir A. S. Richardson, Grand Commander, and Sir Robert Brewster, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

We have also the proceedings of the annual conclave of Texas held at Houston on June 4th, 1873. The proceedings are all devoted to topics of a local character, and there is no report on Foreign Correspondence.

R. E. Sir A. C. Baker was elected Grand Commander and Sir Robert Brewster re-elected Grand Recorder.

VIRGINIA.

At a special grand assembly of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, held at Montgomery, White Sulphur Springs, R. E. Sir John R. McDaniel, Grand Commander, made the following suggestion :

I would suggest, that as an incentive to emulation, that a Medal be prepared and presented at the next Annual Assembly to the best drilled and equipped Commandery present at that time, to be awarded by a committee of three Knights, selected by the Grand Commander, with the approbation or approval of the several Commanders—said Committee to be present, and witness the Inspection and Drill.

A testimonial was also ordered to be presented to the venerable Sir John Dove, as a memento of the appreciation of his efficient discharge of the duties of Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Virginia for the past forty years.

The committee on the Grand Commander's address recommended the suggestion of the Grand Commander that we have just quoted, and presented the following resolution, which was adopted. We trust the latter part of the resolution may soon be repealed :

Resolved, That all the Commanderies of this Grand Jurisdiction be required to conform, in the matter of equipment, to the regulations of the General Grand Encampment of the United States: provided, that such Commanderies as are already equipped, shall be allowed to retain their

present uniform until such time as they may see fit to alter the same, when they too shall be required to conform thereto.

The annual assembly was held in the city of Richmond, 12th December 1872, R. E. Sir William B. Isaacs, Grand Commander.

An application was received from three Commanderies located in West Virginia, asking the consent of the Grand Commandery to the formation of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of West Virginia, which was granted. We understand that the new Grand Commandery has been formed, but we have not yet received any communications from it.

The committee that was appointed to memorialize the Grand Encampment of the United States on the subject of withdrawing from its jurisdiction, presented a report. But we do not think any good will be accomplished by any further notice of a difficulty which we trust is forever buried, and may never be again revived in any shape.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again by Sir James A. Scott. Our proceedings of 1872 are briefly noticed.

R. E. Sir William B. Isaacs, Grand Commander, and Sir John Dove, Grand Recorder, were both re-elected.

WISCONSIN.

The fourteenth annual couclave of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin was held in the city of Milwaukee, 15th January, 1873, R. E. Sir A. V. H. Carpenter, Grand Commander.

Our confrere of the Mutual Admiration Society complains that as Wisconsin is the last on the list, it is always dismissed with a very short notice, and but few quotations made from its proceedings, and very suggestively says that it is not their fault that Wisconsin commences with a W. If we owe an apology, it is hereby tendered; but we respectfully submit that we must stop making extracts somewhere, and if we were to attempt to take for the Sir Knights of Louisiana all that should be extracted from the transactions of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin, we should have to commence by giving *in extenso* the full address of the R. E. Grand Commandery, and we really haven't time to do that, and if we did it we should expect to have Corson demanding that we should copy his report in full. At any rate, out of that document, which covers twenty-two closely printed pages, we take the following remarks relative to uniform:

It is known generally, among the members of the order, that at the session of the Grand Encampment in 1859, a radical change was made in the regulation uniform of a Knight, and that the same was modified in 1862.

The uniform as fixed in the last named year was generally adopted; some jurisdictions and scattering commanderies retained the old style, but not in sufficient numbers to be considered a division of the order on that subject. Since that time the last Grand Commandery, originally standing out, has wheeled into line; meanwhile, others have been gradually introducing new features in dress; until at the last gathering in Baltimore, in 1871, the muster of knightly legions, there assembled, presented an array of glitter and tinsel, perfectly stunning to *boys* and *nursery maids*; and equal in effect in point of variety to an old fashioned *militia muster*.

The uniform question, in a multitude of forms, was presented to the Grand Encampment. These were all referred to a committee, of which your humble servant was chairman. That committee was divided in opinion. The majority was in favor of adopting a uniform similar to that of army officers, in many respects. The minority, consisting of the Grand Commander of Maine, and myself, were opposed to any change, but finally, out of compliment to the pressure for some change, we consented to a few unimportant modifications involving little expense; the chief points in the change recommended, being the distinction between fatigue caps of officers of different grades, and substituting a black sword belt, for the present style.

By reference to the proceedings, it will be seen that the *minority* report was received and printed, and made a special order for the next session of that Grand Body. The discussions in committee revealed the fact that there was a settled determination on the part of some to bring about a radical change in uniform.

Meantime the parades and reviews, provided in general orders of the occasion, were going on in all their glory, at which those who were conspicuous by their major general's trappings bore a prominent part. It was doubtless a fortunate circumstance, that the attention of this class was so much engrossed in the festivities which reigned that they had no time to devote to business, or we should have to record the adoption of their style, and the "*Credit Mobilier*" of costumers and tailors would have had a grand harvest. As it was, we got a breathing spell till the next meeting of the Grand Encampment. Soon after the conclusion of this grand fanfarouade, the Grand Master with becoming propriety issued a general order requiring compliance with the standing regulation on the subject of uniform—the supreme law for Knights Templar, as I understand the matter, is the edict of the Grand Encampment, and the Grand Master as executive officer is charged with the execution thereof.

Now, against this general order is raised a hue and cry from the non-conformists of the *ante* 1859 stripe, and from the *Major General's* side.

The 1859 change came near uprooting the universal peace and spilling that delectable fluid, called by poets the "sweet milk of concord," but that was scarcely a "tempest in a tea-pot" compared with the storm brewing in consequence of the attempt to enforce compliance with the ordinance. This general order raises no new issue, enacts no new statute, but is simply notice to the order that the behests of its lawful authority must be obeyed. The expediency or non-expediency of the original action of the Grand Encampment is not legitimately at issue.

The time had arrived for just such a test of the validity of the power of the Grand Master.

It is to be hoped that this order will check the career of extravagance, somewhat, so that, at least, those who may attend the next meeting of the Grand Encampment in the simple regulation uniform and equipment, and deport themselves with the quiet dignity of a Christian gentleman shall not be regarded as *outré*.

On one hand it is speciously urged that general order No. 3 bears hardly upon those who have adhered to the ancient regulations; on the other hand, the Major Generals and their staff complain that their fine blue coats and brass buttons will be at a discount if compelled to adhere to regulation dress.

While the great majority of the order think they have some rights in the matter, our common *people* mostly think there should be no change in either direction, that it will be equally unwise to be set afloat on the sea of innovation, subject to caprice of fashion, as for every Commandery in the land to be permitted to adopt its own style, and our Templar legions exhibit the grotesque appearance of the mob at "Vanity Fair."

The least hardship will be occasioned by adhering to the present standard regulation. In all this melee, the thought arises—would such a state of affairs have arisen, had as much attention been paid to the character and calibre of candidates as to their externals?

These remarks are not thrown in to complete an assortment of topics.

The question is being agitated in numerous quarters; questions have been asked me which show that the agitators are mustering for a grand assault on present regulations.

The result will decide whether the order shall maintain the simplicity of a religious and *semi*-military organization, or launch out upon the full tide of a "crack military corps, and so shape our cause that none but "*Men three-quarters made by tailors and by barbers*" shall seek association with us.

My individual views have been sought, to which I have answered that I substantially approve General Order No. 3. I think Grand Master Fellows overshot the mark a little in prescribing the "frock coat of society," as that changes at every *equinox*, if not oftener. I think he would have done better to have fixed upon a uniform style, with length corresponding to the height of the wearer.

I have been asked how the Wisconsin delegation to the next session of Grand Encampment will stand on the subject. To this I have replied, I was not authorized to speak, for I knew not of whom it would consist, besides, they would be likely to be men capable of acting for themselves; but, I would undertake to say so far as this, they would *not* act the part of nincompoops. In this I "spoke by the card," as I had the great pleasure of witnessing the consistency and constancy of Wisconsin men at *St. Louis*, in 1868, and of knowing the fortitude with which they successfully withstood all the inducements and temptations there set before them to cut loose from salutary discipline and indulge in excesses inconsistent with the cloth and insignia they wore.

At first I laughed at the idea that this illustrious order of professed Christian gentlemen, with its grand prestige, could be seriously agitated by such a matter, but the conviction gradually forced itself upon me that such is the case, and "upon that hint I spake."

I cannot entertain the thought that the raid referred to can be successful; for I have too high an opinion of the majority of those whose aim seemed to be in that direction, at Baltimore, to think that their "sober second thought" will not restore the equilibrium of good sense, and cause them to abandon this disastrous course.

The issue is, shall or shall not the order of Knights Templar in America be animated by a nobler purpose than to make a grand display of "fuss and feathers?"

Choose ye, O Fratres!

The proceedings are entirely of a local character, and there is no report on Foreign Correspondence. We do not see how we can do anything more for Wisconsin.

R. E. Sir A. V. H. Carpenter, Grand Commander, and Sir W. T. Palmer, were both re-elected.

We are just in receipt of the proceedings of this Grand Commandery for 1874, and with a view to attempting to do it full justice, postpone its consideration until our next report.

CONCLUSION.

It is with quite a melancholy feeling that we bring this Report to a close, and bid farewell to our confreres of the Templar reporting corps, and to our fraters of this jurisdiction, as Chairman of this Committee; but we have had the painful duty to learn and appreciate that our powers are not adequate to fulfill all the pleasant duties that we would fain take upon ourselves; cares of business and those of other stations requiring our attention, we are unwillingly obliged to retire from this position after a service of only three years, and that without any hope that we shall ever be able to resume it. But our heart is still in the work, and we have to ask, as a

great favor, that we may be favored with the proceedings of the sister Grand Commanderies, to the end that we may be kept fully informed of their doings, in which we shall always take a lively interest.

Finally, we request for our colleague and successor, a continuance of that knightly courtesy heretofore extended to us, and recommend him in the strongest terms for membership in the "Mutuals."

Courteously submitted,

JOSEPH P. HORNOR,

For the Committee.

NEW ORLEANS, 10th February, 1874.

The special committee on the R. E. Grand Commander's address made the following report, which was received and the appendant resolutions adopted.

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Commander's address as refers to the death of R. E. Sir Henry R. Swazey be referred to a special committee of three.

Resolved, That the general and special orders issued by the Grand Commander be approved.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Commandery be and are hereby tendered to the Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge Hall, and that they be notified of the adoption of this resolution.

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery agree with the R. E. Grand Commander in his disapproval of the resolutions adopted by the Grand Commandery of Maine.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be requested to procure a portrait of the M. E. Grand Master, J. Q. A. Fellows, to have the same engraved, and to forward same to R. E. Sir T. S. Parvin, Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, and to draw upon the treasury for the expense of the same.

Resolved, That the design for the jewel of the P. G. C. of this jurisdiction, presented with the address, be adopted.

Resolved, That a standing committee of five, to be called the Committee on Finance, be appointed by the Grand Commander immediately after his installation.

Resolved, That a special committee of five, to be styled the Committee on Arrangements, be appointed by the Grand Commander immediately after his installation, which shall have charge of all arrangements, in conjunction with the R. E. G. C., connected with the next Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery cordially invites all Knight Templars to visit this city during the next Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, to be held on 1st December, 1874, and promises them a cordial and hospitable welcome.

Resolved, That M. E. Josiah H. Drummond, Gen. Grand High Priest, be and is hereby requested to issue an edict changing the time and place of the next Grand Convocation of the Gen. Grand Chapter from Nashville to New Orleans, on 1st December, 1874.

Resolved, That the request of Girard Commandery No. 4, for the reimbursement of fees, be refused, as being contrary to the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Commandery are hereby tendered to Grand Commander Jos. H. DeGrange, for the very efficient and satisfactory manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office during the past year.

Courteously submitted,

JOSEPH P. HORNOR, }
RICHARD LAMBERT, } *Committee.*
Z. M. PIRE.

The resolution referring to Girard Commandery No. 4, was reconsidered, and the R. E. Grand Commander was requested to communicate with the M. E. Grand Master on the question brought forward in the petition of Girard Commandery No. 4.

The Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, Sir Knights A. Hero, Jr. and Harvey Cree, acting as tellers, with the following result:

SIR JOSEPH POTTS HORNOR.....*R. E. Grand Commander.*
SIR JOHN ALEXANDER PEEL.....*V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.*
SIR RUFUS LEWIS BRUCE.....*E. Grand Generalissimo.*
SIR WILLIAM LEWIS STANFORD...*E. Grand Captain General.*
SIR JOHN CHAUNCY CARPENTER..*E. Grand Prelate.*
SIR MICHEL ELOI GIRARD.....*E. Senior Grand Warden.*
SIR ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE..*E. Junior Grand Warden.*
SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODD*E. Grand Treasurer.*
SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....*E. Grand Recorder.*

The R. E. Grand Commander elect announced the appointment of the following officers:

SIR DEWITT CLINTON PECK*E. Grand Standard Bearer.*
" ANDREW HERO, JR.....*E. Grand Sword Bearer.*
" GEORGE JOSIAH PINCKARD....*E. Grand Warder.*
" RAYMOND STEPHEN BURK.....*E. Grand Captain of the Guards.*

The M. E. Grand Master of Knights Templar of the U. S., Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, with the assistance of R. E. Sir Joseph H. DeGrange, P. G. C., then proceeded to and did install the Grand Officers in ample and solemn form.

Sir Knight George J. Pinckard, E. G. Warder elect, having retired, the R. E. Grand Commander was requested to install him at the first Conclave of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

V. E. Sir William R. Whitaker moved that the following article of the By-Laws be repealed, which on being put to a vote was lost.

X. Petitions for the Orders of Knighthood shall be received from no Companion, who does not produce evidence of having been for six months a Royal Arch Mason.

V. E. Sir Hugh Breen offered the following which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the sum of thirty dollars be appropriated to defray the traveling expenses of the Grand Generalissimo, Sir John H. Clarke, in constituting Girard Commandery No. 4, and installing its officers.

On motion of R. E. Sir Richard Lambert, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies, and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Grand Commander, for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect, and that fifty copies of the proceedings be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Correspondence.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the sum of forty dollars be appropriated to E. Sir Knight Grand Recorder, and five dollars to E. Sir Knight Grand Captain of the Guards, for services rendered.

The R. E. Grand Commander, then appointed the following committees :

On death of Past R. E. Grand Commander Swasey — Sir Knights John C. Carpenter, John A. Stevenson, John H. Clarke.

On Finance—V. E. Sir John A. Peel, chairman, with power to choose his colleagues.

On Arrangements — E. Sir Rufus L. Bruce, chairman, with power to choose his colleagues.

On Foreign Correspondence—Sirs William R. Whitaker and Augustus de B. Hughes.

No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN and KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next Annual Conclave, on Friday, Feb. 13th, A. D. 1875, A. O. 757.

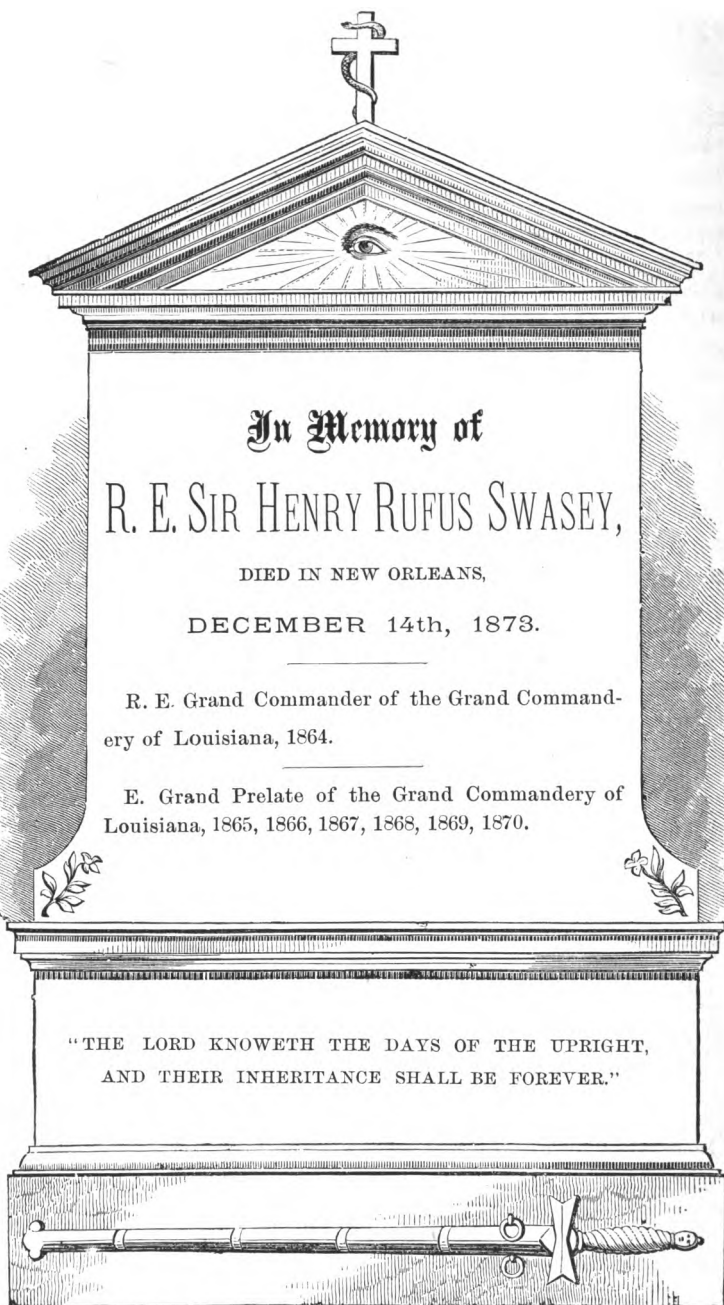


JOSEPH P. HORNOR,

Grand Commander.

ATTEST:

Grand Recorder.



In Memory of

R. E. SIR HENRY RUFUS SWASEY,

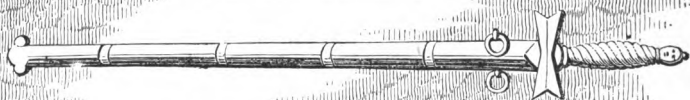
DIED IN NEW ORLEANS,

DECEMBER 14th, 1873.

R. E. Grand Commander of the Grand Command-
ery of Louisiana, 1864.

E. Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of
Louisiana, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870.

"THE LORD KNOWETH THE DAYS OF THE UPRIGHT,
AND THEIR INHERITANCE SHALL BE FOREVER."



REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DEATH OF SIR H. R. SWASEY,
P. R. E. G. C.

To the R. E. Commander of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

Your Special Committee to whom was referred that portion of the R. E. Grand Commander's Address, relating to the death of R. E. P. Grand Commander Henry Rufus Swasey, who departed this life on Sunday, Dec. 14, 1873, at 3½ P. M., beg leave respectfully to report :

That while we would bow in humble submission to the decree of the All-wise Ruler of the Universe, in the removal from our midst of one of the brightest ornaments of our beloved fraternity, we cannot but deplore our great loss, not only to this Grand Body, but to the cause of Masonry at large.

In the death of one so justly and eminently distinguished as a Mason and good citizen, something more than a passing notice is demanded ; but our limited space will admit of only a bare mention of the many virtues of our honored and lamented Sir Knight.

Sir Knight Henry R. Swasey was born in Exeter, N. H., Oct. 31, 1813, and was a resident of New Orleans for 38 years up to the time of his death. He was made a Mason in George Washington Lodge No. 65 in Sept. 1851, and by his devotion and zeal in the cause, rapidly rose to the highest distinction and honors attainable in all the branches and Orders of Masonry. He filled with dignity and ability the various positions of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge ; Grand H. P. of Royal Arch Masons ; President of the Order of High Priesthood of La. ; Most Puissant G. M. of R. & S. Masters ; R. E. G. C. of Knights Templar ; Deputy G. C. of the G. Consistory ; Grand Representative of the G. Lodges of Pennsylvania and Michigan, and of the G. Chapters of Pennsylvania and Minnesota, and Grand Commandery of Kansas, and for seven years Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge ; — thus, through a period of nearly a quarter of a century, by untiring devotion, enlightened zeal and unsurpassed fidelity, dispensing light throughout the entire jurisdiction. Able and discreet in counsel, gentle and affable in all his intercourse, benevolent and kind to all, unobtrusive and retiring in disposition, he endeared himself to the whole fraternity as few have ever done. He has left his footprints along the past of twenty years of Templar Masonry, and the results of his efficient labors and wise counsels will be seen and felt for years to come, and his voice, though hushed in the silence of the grave, will continue to speak to us in every memorial he has left behind, and which will greet us in our "Asylum" as often as we there gather beneath the folds of our cherished banners.

Truly one of our brightest lights has been extinguished ; yet, as the rays from an extinguished luminary in the far off heavens, continue for years to pour their light upon us, so will the rays from our extinguished *Masonic* light continue to illumine our pathway with brightest radiance.

With so much to remind us of him, it is needless to say, that the memory of his private and social virtues will live in our thoughts, and be enshrined in our hearts, so long as we are travellers upon the "level of time."

May we who survive, imitate his virtues, and so live that when our labors on earth are finished, we may, through faith in the infinite merits of our ascended Redeemer, be prepared to enter upon that eternal "rest that remaineth to the people of God."

We append the following resolutions and recommend their adoption :

Resolved, That in the death of Sir Knight Henry R. Swasey, Templar Masonry, and this Grand Commandery especially, has sustained an irreparable loss.

Resolved, That a monumental page of the printed proceedings of this Grand Conclave be set apart commemorative of the deceased.

Resolved, That we tender our sincerest condolence to the stricken household, in this their sad bereavement, and that a copy of the foregoing be sent to the widow of our deceased Sir Knight.

Respectfully submitted,

| | | |
|---|---|------------|
| J. C. CARPENTER, JOHN A. STEVENSON, JOHN H. CLARKE. | } | Committee. |
|---|---|------------|

ANNUAL RETURNS

OF

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

FOR THE YEAR 1873.

—:0:—

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

Original Charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York, May 4th, A. D. 1816,
A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th,
A. D. 1844.

—:0:—

OFFICERS FOR 1873.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sir John A. Peel.....E. C. | Sir Hugh Breen.....Treasurer. |
| " Berry Russell.....G. | " M. A. Calongne.....Recorder. |
| " G. J. Pinckard.....C. G. | " J. H. Dorand.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " J. C. Carpenter.....Prelate. | " J. Olle.....Sword Bearer. |
| " G. L. Hall.....Sen. Warden. | " E. J. Barksdull.....Warden. |
| " Sam'l Allston.....Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire.....Sent. |

Guards—F. W. Delesdernier, J. H. Harvey.

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| T. A. Bartlette, P. G. G., | M. A. Calongne, P. G. C. G., | Richard Lambert, P. G. C. |
| Hugh Breen, P. D. G. C., | James Stafford, | S. Hopkins, Jr. |
| John G. Fleming, P. G. C. G., | F. W. Delesdernier, | I. W. Homan. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Allabaugh, J. R. | Coyle, W. G. | Hinton, Isaac T. | Redon, O. M. |
| Annan, A. | Chandler, J. B. | Hall, S. R. | Riverra, P. Nap |
| Barnes, J. S. | Churchill, P. J. | Ivens, E. M. | Rice, Felix |
| Benedict, A. W. | Crawford, J. D. | Isaacson, A. H. | Soule, George |
| Buins, H. C. | Custer, A. B. | Jones, F. A. | Scott, John K. |
| Barker, P. A. | Donella, O. J. | Johnson Geo. | Starr, William |
| Burden, Thomas | Daussat, J. L. | Kells, Chas. E. | Skardon, A. W. |
| Baker, John | Duncan, H. C. | Knapp, F. H. | Sterling, R. G. |
| Brown, H. C. | Ellsworth, O. | Keenan, Pat | Stanton, W. C. |
| Buchanan, H. | Ewell, Wm. M. | Kellett, John | Sweeney, James |
| Carter, J. H. | Furneaux, Jas. | Lafon, René | Stafford, I. C. |
| Cox, William, | Fisher, J. A. G. | McDuff, Wm. | Stewart, David |
| Cage, D. S. | Garrett, A. C. | Mullan, H. J. | Sheehan, Thos. |
| Constantini, F. | Heron, A. C. | Martin, Angel | Thomas, Charles |
| Clark, John | Hillman, A. | O'Meallie, H. M. | Viosca, J., Sr. |
| Cain, L. P. | Herwig, J. L. | Ochiglevich, J. | Williams, Peter |
| Cassidy, Henry | Haggart, S. B. | O'Dowd, J. | Wolverton, N. W. |
| Cleveland, W. F. | Herwig, P. F. | Otto, F. | White, Jona C. |
| Czarnowski, Oscar | Hart, L. | Panzer, S. H. | Young, John, Jr. |
| | Ziegler, Joseph | | Total, 67. |

Orders Conferred—P. J. Churchill, F. Otto.

Demitted—Claudius Mayo, J. D. Richard, E. Melloch.

Died—W. H. Wells.

Suspended—John Rooney.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 25th, A. D. 1851,

A. O. 733.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans,

OFFICERS FOR 1873.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Sir Rufus L. Bruce..... | E. C. | Sir Samuel M. Todd..... | Treasurer. |
| “ Z. M. Pike..... | G. | “ Gustavus Sontag..... | Recorder. |
| “ L. T. Murdock..... | C. G. | “ D. W. C. Peck..... | Stan. Bearer. |
| “ T. F. Patton..... | Prelate. | “ T. F. Hedges..... | Sword Bearer. |
| “ Harvey Cree..... | Sen. Warden. | “ L. Sorapuru..... | Warder. |
| “ D. C. Johnston..... | Jun. Warden. | “ J. W. Maguire(not a m'b'r).. | Sent. |
| Sirs F. P. Rowand, G. H. Dunbar, | | F. H. Wilson.....Guards. | |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| W. W. Johnson, | John B. Robertson, | James B. Scot, P. D. G. C. |
| Samuel M. Todd, P. G. C. | J. A. Stevenson, P. G. C. | Jos. H. DeGrange, G. C. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Addison, Ashford | Collins, J. K. | McNeil, Alexander | Schilling, H. T. |
| Austin, R. S. | Darden, R. G. | Mitchell, D. F. | Santini, Joseph |
| Brode, F. A. | Dunn, James B. | Montgomery, B. J. | Sheldon, A. D. |
| Buckley, H. P. | Eyrich, A. | McConneghy, Wm. | Strong, Robert |
| Blessey, E. | Fuller, Charles A. | Manning, W. H. | Small, A. B. |
| Burke, E. A. | Francis, M. W. | McGuffy, H. | Selph, C. McR. |
| Bull, Geo. | Footo, Alexis S. | Mandal, Peter C. | Springer, G. J. |
| Bell, Wm. Robt. | FitzGerald, W. E. | McWilliams, J. G. | Stroud, Geo. |
| Batchelor, Jas. C. | Fellowes, E. T. | Macon, Thos. L. | Thayer, F. N. |
| Bothick, Thos. W. | Glennon, Robert | Norris, J. W. | Trippett, R. S. |
| Bennett, Phillip | Garner, George G. | Newton, C. W. | Turck, J. R. |
| Boning, Geo. | Hasam, Thomas | O'Beirne, W. J. | Todd, James |
| Brown S. H. | Hawkins, John | Pike, Wm. S. | Timbrell, G. H. W. |
| Buchholz, A. P. | Holyland, F. | Perkins, Wm. M. | VanHorn, T. D. |
| Baxter, Eug. | Hamburger, H. | Pearce, J. W. | Villasana, F. de P. |
| Bonnabel, Hy. | Hughes, David | Pierson, Hugh | Williams, H. |
| Carter, Howell | Ittman, G. B. | Pickert, J. A. | Wilson, J. H. |
| Carey, J. T. | Jones, John W. | Peck, Milton A. | Weber, William |
| Carnahan, H. S. | Kent, Amos | Ramelli, D. S. | Wang, Fred |
| Carter, Albert G. | Lane, Lafayette N. | Race, George W. | Wrede, J. W. |
| Clarke, Joseph D. | Lunn, Thomas | Robson, William | Webster, L. J. |
| Craig, Emmet D. | Lusse, Caspar | Richardson, J. G. | Wynne, C. E. |
| Chase, C. H. | Low, James | Selby, Geo. | Wilner, J. C. |
| Carroll, T. | Lisso, Julius | Schmidt, Chas. | Wilson, James |
| Collins, G. W. | Lee, John J. | Smith, John C. | Yorke, E. A. |
| | | | Young, J. T. |
| Total, 120. | | | |

Orders Conferred—Julius Lisso, James Wilson, G. J. Springer, David Hughes, G. H. W. Timbrell, Sam'l H. Brown, Geo. Stroud, F. P. Rowand, A. P. Buchholz, G. W. Collins, T. F. Hedges, Eug. Baxter, M. A. Peck, D. C.

Johnston, B. J. Montgomery, L. Sorapuru, J. K. Collins, Frank H. Wilson,
Wm. McConneghy, H. Bonnabel, John J. Lee, G. H. Dunbar, J. T. Young.

Affiliated—F. de P. Villasana.

Demitted—J. C. Gordy, J. L. Morris.

Died—Henry R. Swasey, P. G. C., John N. Ward, Edward Barnett.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, September 4th, A. D. 1862.

A. O. 744.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

OFFICERS FOR 1873.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sir Wm. L. Stanford..... E. C. | Sir E. G. Mehnert..... Treasurer. |
| " John W. Madden..... G. | " Thomas Cripps..... Recorder. |
| " Andrew Hero, Jr..... C. G. | " S. F. Monroe..... Stan. Bearer. |
| " John H. Clarke..... Prelate. | " T. J. Rodgers..... Sword Bearer. |
| " Eug. Tisdale..... Sen. Warden. | " Jacob Gray..... Warder. |
| " Edward Baker.... Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire(not a m'b'r). Sent. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| J. Q. A. Fellows, P. G. C. | Joseph P. Hornor, P. G. C. | Thomas Cripps, |
| & G. M. G. E. U. S. | Wm. R. Whittaker, P. D. G. C. | |
| W. C. Driver, | John H. Clarke. P. G. C. G. | Geo. Baldey. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Adams, E. E. | Cooper, William | Lusse, Henry | Remick, F. C. |
| Andrews, E. B. | Doane, Harmon | Murphy, Wm. E. | Richards, John L. |
| Abbott, Geo. H. | Davisson, C. W. | Montgomery, D. | Shaw, Alfred |
| Baldwin, Albert | Dunlap, J. G. | Moon, W. H. | Seymour, Sam'l J. |
| Baxter, J. B. D. | Estlin, Chas. T. | Miller, Nick. | Sizer, Geo. W. |
| Benedict, W. S. | Friend, Thomas | McGinnis, J. J. | Scott, Chas. A. |
| Bullitt, Cuthbert | Gardner, L. H. | Morrison, D. C. | Slaight, H. L. |
| Burk, R. S. | Gilman, S. H. | Myers, F. E. | Stockdale, S. A. |
| Billings, A. E. | Hays, H. T. | Nash, Chas. T. | Stewart, W. P. |
| Bovard, Rob't D. | Hughes, A. de B. | Pilcher, Mason | Staples, Geo. |
| Burbank, N. | Harris, J. L. | Parsons, J. P. | Sypher, A. J. |
| Blake, Geo. A. | Hildreth, D. M. | Parle, A. | Shook, E. A. |
| Chamberlain, Geo. | Hunt, C. S. | Porter, C. S. D. | Trimble, J. E. |
| Crawford, Levy S. | Huff, F. | Potter, Jotham | Twitchell, H. T. |
| Campbell, Benj. | Johnson, W. A. | Rice, Chas. S. | Watson, Robert |
| Carroll, R. W. W. | James, W. G. | Reid, Edw. | Walsh, P. P. |
| Cosbey, John J. | Keys, Nelson | Robinson, Wm. M. | Wright, S. B. |
| Currey, E. S. | Leacock, W. T. | Robinson, N. T. N. | Wilcox, N. A. |
| Cooper, J. B. | Lawrence, B. R. | Rusha, E. M. | Woods, Michael.* |
| | | | Total, 91. |

Orders Conferred—E. A. Shook, E. C. Mehnert, John L. Richards, Fred Hufft.

Affiliated—N. A. Wilcox.

Demitted—M. E. Girard, J. C. Lennon, John F. Collins.

Expelled—W. H. Frommeyer.

Reinstated—Geo. A. Blake.

*Omitted last year.

GIRARD COMMANDERY No. 4.

Opelousas, St. Landry Parish.

OFFICERS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sir Michel Eloï Girard.....E. C. | Sir J. W. Jackson.....Treasurer. |
| " Claudius Mayo.....G. | " F. J. Hundley.....Recorder. |
| " Jonathan Levi Morris.....C. G. | " Geo. O. Elms.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " James Ray.....Prelate. | " R. Dugat.....Sword Bearer. |
| " George Pulford.....Sen. Warden. | " W. A. Robertson.....Warder. |
| " M. G. May.....Jun. Warden. | " Louis Lejeune.....Sentinel. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Crawford, Wm. | Gantt, Elbert | Lewis, Edw. T. | Pitre, F. L. |
| Chenier, Jos. | Gordy, John C. | Mudd, Francis S. | Richard, Jos. D. |
| | | | Total, 20. |

Orders Conferred—Joseph Chenier, George O. Elms, F. J. Hundley, F. L. Pitre.

Died—K. H. Bodemuller.

List of Elective Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

| YEAR. | R. E. G. COMMANDER. | V. E. D. G. COMMANDER. | E. G. GENERALISSIMO. | E. GRAND CAPT. GENERAL. | E. G. PRELATE. | E. GRAND TREASURER. | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
|-------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1864 | Hy. Rufus Swasey* | J. Q. A. Fellows | Fulgence Ricau* | Willis P. Coleman* | John H. Holland* | Hosea Edwards* | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1865 | J. Q. A. Fellows... | S. M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau* | Willis P. Coleman* | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey... | Joseph P. Hornor. |
| 1866 | Sam'l M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau* | Joseph P. Hornor | M. A. Calongne.... | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1867 | Sam'l M. Todd..... | Fulgence Ricau* | Joseph P. Hornor | Wm. R. Whitaker... | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1868 | Fulgence Ricau* | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson... | Wm. R. Whitaker... | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey... | A. E. Billings. |
| 1869 | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson... | W. R. Whitaker... | M. A. Calongne.... | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1870 | Joseph P. Hornor | James B. Scot.... | T. A. Bartlette... | Jas. E. McBeth*... | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1871 | Jno. A. Stevenson. | Richard Lambert | W. R. Whitaker... | Hugh Breen..... | H. C. Duncan.... | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1872 | Richard Lambett. | W. R. Whitaker... | Hugh Breen..... | Jos. H. DeGrange. | J. C. Carpenter... | Emanuel Blessey... | G. Sontag. |
| 1873 | J. H. DeGrange... | Hugh Breen..... | John H. Clarke... | John G. Fleming... | J. C. Carpenter... | H. P. Buckley.... | G. Sontag. |
| 1874 | Joseph P. Hornor | John A. Peel..... | Rufus L. Bruce... | Wm. L. Stanford... | J. C. Carpenter... | Sam'l M. Todd.... | G. Sontag. |

*Dead.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF COMMANDERIES UNDER THIS JURISDICTION.

| NAME OF COMMANDERY. | Number. | WHERE LOCATED. | E. COMMANDER. | RECORDER. | Number of members. | Orders conferred. | Affiliated. | Demitted. | Died. | Suspended. | Expelled. | Struck from roll. | Reinstated. |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------|-------|------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------|
| Indivisible Friends..... | 1 | New Orleans..... | J. A. Peel..... | M. A. Calongne... | 97 | 2 | ... | 3 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| Jacques de Molay..... | 2 | " | R. L. Bruce..... | G. Sontag..... | 120 | 23 | 1 | 2 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Orleans..... | 3 | " | W. L. Stanford... | T. Crippa..... | 91 | 4 | ... | 3 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Girard..... | 4 | Opelousas..... | M. E. Girard... | F. H. Hundley... | 20 | 4 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 328 | 33 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 1 | ..... | 1 |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

*Of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, near other Grand Com-
manderies.*

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alabama..... | Sir Frank R. Jarvis. |
| California..... | Sir Isaac S. Titus. |
| Georgia..... | Sir Robert L. Roddy. |
| Illinois..... | Sir Harmon G. Reynolds. |
| Indiana..... | Sir E. D. Palmer. |
| Iowa..... | Sir Edward A. Guilbert. |
| Kentucky..... | Sir William C. Munger. |
| Kansas..... | Sir John M. Price. |
| Maine..... | Sir Josiah H. Drummond. |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island..... | Sir William W. Baker. |
| Missouri..... | Sir George Frank Gouley. |
| Mississippi..... | Sir E. George DeLap. |
| Minnesota..... | Sir A. E. Ames. |
| Michigan..... | Sir E. I. Garfield. |
| New York..... | Sir Ezra S. Barnum. |
| New Jersey..... | Sir Thomas J. Corson. |
| Nebraska..... | Sir Charles W. Seymour. |
| Pennsylvania..... | Sir James H. Hopkins. |
| Tennessee..... | Sir A. D. Sears. |
| Texas..... | Sir L. M. Oppenheimer. |
| Vermont..... | Sir Jos. L. Perkins. |
| Wisconsin..... | Sir Henry L. Palmer. |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

*Of other Grand Commanderies, near the Grand Commandery of
Louisiana.*

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Alabama..... | Sir James C. Batchelor. |
| California..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Georgia..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Illinois..... | Sir Gustavus Sontag. |
| Indiana..... | Sir Richard Lambert. |
| Kentucky..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Kansas..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Maine..... | Sir James B. Scot. |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Missouri..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Mississippi..... | Sir Joseph H. DeGrange. |
| Minnesota..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| New York..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| New Jersey..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Nebraska..... | Sir _____ |
| Pennsylvania..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Tennessee..... | Sir James C. Batchelor. |
| Vermont..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Wisconsin..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |

REGISTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES **UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.**

| STATE. | DATE OF ORG'NIZAT'N | GRAND COMMANDER. | RESIDENCE. | GRAND RECORDER. | RESIDENCE. |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| ALABAMA..... | December 1, 1860..... | Walter L. Bragg..... | Montgomery. | Daniel Sayre..... | Montgomery. |
| ARKANSAS..... | March 25, 1872..... | Luke E. Barber..... | Little Rock..... | John W. Rison..... | Little Rock. |
| CALIFORNIA..... | August 10, 1858..... | Thos. H. Caswell..... | Nevada..... | C. L. Wiggins..... | San Francisco. |
| CONNECTICUT..... | September 13, 1827..... | Dan'l Calkins..... | East Lyme..... | John W. Stedman..... | Norwich. |
| GEORGIA..... | April 18..... | Wm. H. Tuller..... | Atlanta..... | C. R. Armstrong..... | Macon. |
| ILLINOIS..... | October 27, 1857..... | James A. Hawley..... | Dixon..... | James H. Miles..... | Chicago. |
| INDIANA..... | May 16, 1854..... | E. D. Palmer..... | Richmond..... | John M. Branwell..... | Indianapolis. |
| IOWA..... | June 6, 1864..... | Buron R. Sheruan..... | Vinton..... | W. B. Langridge..... | Muscatine. |
| KANSAS..... | December 29, 1868..... | John M. Price..... | Atchison..... | E. T. Carr..... | Leavenworth. |
| KENTUCKY..... | October 5, 1847..... | Henry Bostwick..... | Covington..... | Wm. C. Munger..... | Franklin. |
| LOUISIANA..... | February 12, 1864..... | Joseph P. Hornor..... | New Orleans..... | Gustavus Sontag..... | New Orleans. |
| MAINE..... | May 5, 1862..... | John W. Ballou..... | Bath..... | Ira Berry..... | Portland. |
| MASSACHUSETTS & RHODE ISL'D. | May 12, 1805..... | Chas. A. Stott..... | Lowell..... | A. F. Chapman..... | Boston. |
| MARYLAND..... | January 23, 1871..... | Francis Lincoln..... | Baltimore..... | Frank J. Kugler..... | Baltimore. |
| MICHIGAN..... | January 15, 1857..... | E. I. Garfield..... | Detroit..... | Wm. P. Innis..... | Grand Rapids. |
| MINNESOTA..... | October 23, 1865..... | H. L. Carver..... | St. Paul..... | E. D. B. Porter..... | St. Paul. |
| MISSISSIPPI..... | January 23, 1857..... | E. T. Henry..... | Vicksburg..... | J. L. Power..... | Jackson. |
| MISSOURI..... | May 22, 1860..... | John Ure..... | Hannibal..... | Geo. F. Goulay..... | St. Louis. |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE..... | June 12, 1860..... | Joseph W. Fellows..... | Manchester..... | John A. Harris..... | Concord. |
| NEW JERSEY..... | February 14, 1860..... | W. H. Mellhanny..... | Elizabeth..... | Thos. J. Corson..... | Trenton. |
| NEW YORK..... | June 18, 1814..... | Mead Belden..... | Syracuse..... | Robert Macey..... | New York. |
| NEBRASKA..... | December 28, 1871..... | O. H. Irish..... | Nebraska City..... | Wm. R. Bowen..... | Omaha. |
| OHIO..... | October 24, 1843..... | Enoch T. Carson..... | Cincinnati..... | James Nesbitt..... | Troy. |
| PENNSYLVANIA..... | April 14, 1854..... | Grant Weidman..... | Lebanon..... | C. E. Meyer..... | Philadelphia. |
| TENNESSEE..... | October 12, 1859..... | George Mellersh..... | Memphis..... | John Frizzell..... | Nashville. |
| TEXAS..... | January 19, 1855..... | A. J. Baker..... | Galveston..... | Robert Brewster..... | Houston. |
| VERMONT..... | June 17, 1824..... | Joseph L. Perkins..... | St. Johnsbury..... | W. H. S. Whitcomb..... | Burlington. |
| VIRGINIA..... | November 27, 1822..... | W. B. Isaacs..... | Richmond..... | John Dove..... | Richmond. |
| WISCONSIN..... | October 29, 1859..... | Eminons Taylor..... | Portage City..... | John W. Woodhull..... | Berlin. |

Officers of Grand Commandery.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| SIR JOSEPH POTTS HORNOR..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander,</i> | <i>New Orleans</i> |
| SIR JOHN ALEXANDER PEEL..... | <i>V. E. Dep. Grand Commander,</i> | " " |
| SIR RUFUS LEWIS BRUCE..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo,</i> | " " |
| SIR WILLIAM LEWIS STANFORD.. | <i>E. Grand Captain General,</i> | " " |
| SIR JOHN CHAUNCEY CARPENTER.. | <i>E. Grand Prelate,</i> | " " |
| SIR MICHEL ELOI GIRARD.... | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden,</i> | <i>Opelousas.</i> |
| SIR ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE. | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden,</i> | <i>New Orleans.</i> |
| SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODD | <i>E. Grand Treasurer,</i> | " " |
| SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder,</i> | " " |
| SIR DEWITT CLINTON PECK..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer,</i> | " " |
| SIR ANDREW HERO, JR..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer,</i> | " " |
| SIR GEORGE JOSIAH PINCKARD.... | <i>E. Grand Warder,</i> | " " |
| SIR RAYMOND STEPHEN BURK..... | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards,</i> | " " |

Annual Grand Conclave of 1874.

The next Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, will be held in Grand Lodge, Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Friday, February 12, 1875. A. O. 757.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Sirs WM. R. WHITAKER and A. de B. HUGHES.

To Grand Recorders.

I respectfully request the Grand Recorders of the various Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar, to transmit to me, by separate mails, duplicate copies of their Proceedings, and the favor shall be reciprocated with due courtesy.

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

Drawer 321, Post Office, New Orleans.

IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.



Grand Commandery

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

Louisiana.

1875.

Freemasons, Louisiana, Knights Templars
= Grand Commandery.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar
AND
APPENDANT ORDERS
OF THE
STATE OF LOUISIANA,
AT ITS
Twelfth Annual Conclave,
NEW ORLEANS, FEBRUARY 12, A. D. 1875, A. O. 757.

Sir JOSEPH H. DeGRANGE, - - - R. E. Grand Commander.
Sir GUSTAVUS SONTAG, - - - E. Grand Recorder.

NEW ORLEANS:
A. W. HYATT, STATIONER AND PRINTER, 88 CAMP STREET.
1875.

D. Y.

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1875

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TWELFTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar,

AND

Appendant Orders of the State of Louisiana.

THE R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at its Sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, City of New Orleans, on Friday, February 12th, A. D. 1875, A. O. 757, at 12 o'clock, M., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR..... | R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. |
| " JOHN A. PEEL..... | V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER. |
| " RUFUS L. BRUCE..... | E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO. |
| " WM. L. STANFORD..... | E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. |
| " J. C. CARPENTER..... | E. GRAND PRELATE. |
| " M. E. GIRARD..... | E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN. |
| " Z. M. PIKE..... | E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN. |
| " SAM'L M. TODD..... | E. GRAND TREASURER. |
| " GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
| " D. W. C. PECK..... | E. GRAND STANDARD BEARER. |
| " A. HERO, JR..... | E. GRAND SWORD BEARER. |
| " G. J. PINCKARD..... | E. GRAND WARDER. |
| " RAYMOND S. BURK..... | E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS. |

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS..... | P. R. E. Grand Commander. |
| " SAMUEL M. TODD..... | " " " " " |
| " JOSEPH P. HORNOR..... | " " " " " |
| " JOHN A. STEVENSON..... | " " " " " |
| " RICHARD LAMBERT..... | " " " " " |
| " JOSEPH H. DeGRANGE..... | " " " " " |

SIR JAMES B. SCOT.....P. V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.
 " WILLIAM R. WHITAKER..... " " "
 " M. A. CALONGNE..... " Grand Captain General.
 " JOHN G. FLEMING..... " " "

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODD.....Pennsylvania, New York,
 Kentucky, Georgia and California.
 SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR.....Missouri, New Jersey, Mas-
 sachusetts and Rhode Island and Maryland.
 SIR JAMES C. BATCHELOR.....Tennessee and Alabama.
 " JAMES B. SCOT.....Maine.
 " JOSEPH H. DeGRANGE.....Mississippi.
 " RICHARD LAMBERTIndiana and Texas.
 " GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....Illinois.
 " J. Q. A. FELLOWS.....Kansas, Minnesota, Ver-
 mont and Wisconsin.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns:

SIR S. HOPKINS, JR., of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.
 " G. SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.
 " A. HERO, JR., of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns submitted the following report, which was read and adopted;

NEW ORLEANS, February 12th, 1875.

To the Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Credentials report the following Commanderies entitled to representation, and the following Sir Knights entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery, as legal Representatives:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY NO. 1.

Berry Russell, E. C. Sam'l Alston, G. Geo. Soulé, C. G.

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY NO. 2.

Harvey Cree, E. C. D. C. Johnston, G. Robt. Strong, C. G.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY NO. 3.

J. W. Madden, E. C. A. Hero, Jr., G. (H. C. Duncan, proxy); E. Baker, C. G.

GRAND COMMANDERY.

5

GIRARD COMMANDERY NO. 4.

M. E. Girard, E. C. (J. K. Collins, proxy); C. Mayo, G. J. L. Morris, C. G.
Courteously submitted,

S. HOPKINS, JR..

A. HERO, JR.

G. SONTAG.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz :

Indivisible Friends No. 1 ; Jacques de Molay No. 2 ; Orleans No. 3 ; Girard No. 4.

The R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, then delivered the following

ADDRESS:

Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery :

In rendering to you an account of my stewardship for the past year, I find that I must rather appeal to what has been accomplished than to attempt to describe it in words, and believe that the results that have been obtained must have been generally satisfactory to you ; and, if there have been some drawbacks ; if all has not worked quite as smoothly as could have been expected, still such must necessarily have affected me more than any one else, and the success that has attended your efforts have been universally acknowledged with gratitude.

OBITUARY.

I have to call your attention to the decease of several distinguished Templars.

Sir William C. Driver, Past Eminent Commander of Orleans Commandery No. 3, and Past Grand Warder of this Grand Commandery, died in this city on the 2d day of July, 1874. Zealous and devoted to his duties, he was well known to all of us, and by his regular attendance at all our meetings evinced his love for the Order.

Sir Knight Wm. M. Perkins, of Jacques de Molay Commandery, No. 2, died in Chicago, on the 14th of September, 1874 ; he had been for several years Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and at a period of its history the most important and interesting ; although for many years a Knight Templar, he never sought promotion in our ranks, but by us as by all who knew him, he was greatly beloved and venerated for his many virtues.

Sir William S. Pike, of the same Commandery, died in this city on 5th January, 1875 ; his name was a household word, not only in this city, but throughout the State, for liberality, generosity, and all the social virtues, and he was beloved by all for his unselfish eagerness to promote any scheme calculated for the public good. At the time of his decease he was Grand Treasurer of the

Grand Lodge, and during the whole of the past year he was a member of our Finance Committee, and greatly aided me by his exertions thereon.

At the special request of the Grand Master, the Grand Commandery was called out to each of the funerals of these two worthy fraters, and acted as escort to the Grand Lodge, by whom their bodies were interred.

Sir Frank R. Jarvis, Grand Representative of this Grand Commandery near the Grand Commandery of Alabama, died at Mobile, 18th October, 1874. It is sad to contemplate the fact that but two short months previously we met him in camp at Biloxi, full of health and strength, and apparently in the vigor of his manhood. Sir Knight Jarvis was one of the most popular of our fraters of Mobile, and well known among the business men of our sister city for his industry and integrity. By his death I have personally lost a dear, intimate and kind friend, and the close relations which for years have existed between us, render me unable, at this time, to speak of his many virtues in such a manner and in such words as they deservedly merit.

Sir A. E. Ames, Grand Representative of this Grand Commandery near the Grand Commandery of Minnesota, died at Minneapolis, in that State, 23d September, 1874. He was a distinguished Mason and had creditably filled all the Grand Offices in the gift of his brethren and fraters, and his loss has been a great one to that jurisdiction.

I earnestly recommend that proper proceedings be taken to testify our respect for the memories of these Sir Knights.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

I have been notified of the appointment of the following Sir Knights as Grand Representatives near this Grand Commandery, and I recommend that they be received and greeted as such :

R. E. Sir RICHARD LAMBERT, from the Grand Commandery of Texas.

R. E. Sir JOSEPH P. HORNOR, from the Grand Commanderies of Maryland and Connecticut.

And I have appointed the following Sir Knights as Grand Representatives of this Grand Commandery, and ask that my appointments be confirmed :

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| R. E. Sir E. T. SCHULTZ..... | Near the Grand Commandery of Maryland. |
| V. E. Sir E. H. ENGLISH | Arkansas. |
| R. E. Sir DANIEL CALKINS..... | Connecticut. |
| R. E. Sir JOSEPH W. FELLOWS... | New Hampshire: |
| R. E. Sir ENOCH T. CARSON | Ohio. |
| E. Sir JAMES A. SCOTT | Virginia. |
| R. E. Sir CHARLES R. WOODRUFF .. | Kentucky. |
| E. Sir E. F. DODGE | Minnesota. |
| E. Sir JOHN H. HIGLEY | Alabama. |

* * * * *

GENERAL TRANSACTIONS.

Immediately upon the close of our last Annual Conclave, I issued general and special orders for drills, etc., and with but little difficulty soon put the Sir

Knights of this city upon a very creditable footing, and preparations for receiving our guests in December were put into operation and were continued with much zeal and enthusiasm until the final close of the Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States. Copies of my orders are annexed hereto for reference and for your information.

24TH JUNE, 1874.

At the general request of the members of the city Commanderies, I issued orders for the celebration of St. John the Baptist's Day by a parade and review and the religious exercises of our Order. At my request the trustees of the Carondelet Street Methodist Church placed their edifice at my disposal for the purpose, and the ceremonies prepared by Sir Knight McMurdy, and reported by him to the Grand Encampment in 1865, were conducted by our Grand Prelate, Sir John C. Carpenter, and were witnessed by a large concourse of our best citizens and their families; after which the Sir Knights made a short parade, closing with a review in Lafayette Square. All passed off very successfully and satisfactorily, and contributed in no small degree in promoting the efficiency and good discipline of my command. I request that the Grand Commandery will make a suitable acknowledgment of the courtesies extended to us by the gentlemen composing the Board of Direction of the Carondelet Street Methodist Church.

BILOXI.

On the 8d of April, I addressed letters to the Grand Commanders of Mississippi, Alabama and Texas, on the subject of the holding of the Nineteenth Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, in this city, representing that we should probably be short of hands, in the matter, especially of escort duty, in the reception of our guests, and requesting their permission be granted me to ask the assistance of any of their subordinates, and allow such of them as were willing, permission to report to me for duty, temporarily, under the banner of this Grand Commandery. At the same time I called their attention to the absolute necessity of frequent drills, and of improving every opportunity to perfect the discipline of our commands; and to that end I suggested that a Field Encampment should be held at Biloxi, during the month of August.

I received prompt answers to my communications from all of the said Grand Commanders granting all my requests, and endorsing and approving my proposition for a Field Encampment.

On the 26th of May, I proceeded to Jackson, Mississippi, and there attended the annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of that State, and was received by Grand Commander Sir E. T. Henry, and all of his officers and fraters, with a most cordial welcome; I was invited to address them, and having explained my wishes and intentions, a unanimous resolution was passed most complimentary to this Grand Commandery, and worthy of the well known magnanimity of Mississippi Templars, granting all the requests made in your name; and thereupon, Sir R. L. Saunders, Eminent Commander of Mississippi Com-

mandery No. 1, and Sir William A. Fairchild, Eminent Commander of Magnolia Commandery No. 2, tendered me the services of their commands for the Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery, pledging themselves to assist us with all the means in their power. I need not inform you how gloriously that pledge was redeemed.

Accordingly, after considerable preparation, the Field Encampment was held at Biloxi, from the 7th to 11th of August, inclusive; and was named "Camp Palmer," in honor of the oldest living Past Grand Master. Our Grand Commandery was represented by the three Commanderies stationed in this city, and there was also present an emergent Commandery formed of the members of Mobile Commandery No. 2, and Alabama Commandery No. 6, of Mobile, under the command of Sir John H. Higley; and Mississippi was represented by Deputy Grand Commander Sir G. W. Cox and several other Knights. I feel justified in saying that the experiment proved a great success, and seemed to draw still closer the ties of affection between the Templars of these South-western States.

* * * * *

RECEPTION OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

The Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, was held in this city, December 1st, 1874; it is hardly proper for me to enter into particulars of the reception of its members by this Grand Commandery, but I may say that it seemed to give very general satisfaction to our visitors. The Mobile Commandery, which had been with us at Biloxi, and had promised us their assistance, were deterred from joining us, on account of some misunderstanding with their Grand Commander, which officer promised to explain the matter to me, but has until now not done so; the absence of our fraters from the nearest large city, was a cause of great regret to all of us.

Ascalon Commandery No. 16, of St. Louis, Sir James F. Aglar, Eminent Commander, also tendered me their services and assistance, which were very gratefully accepted, but owing to the detention of the steamboat Great Republic on which they had taken passage, they arrived too late to help us.

Mississippi Commandery No. 1, of Jackson, and Magnolia Commandery No. 2, of Vicksburg, promptly reported for duty and were of incalculable assistance; ever ready and ever eager for duty, we presumed to treat them as of ourselves, and found them true fellow soldiers, dividing with their comrades the labors and fatigues of the occasion. I trust that this Grand Commandery will appropriately acknowledge the great and efficient services they rendered.

I have also to report that Battery B., Captain James D. Edwards, volunteered to fire all our salutes for us, free of charge for their services, and their efficiency and soldier-like performances were admitted by all. The guns were kindly loaned at my request by Gen. Henry Street, Adjutant General of the State. I recommend proper recognition to these acts of kindness.

COSTUME.

From the very general acquiescence evinced to General Orders No. 3, of Grand Master Fellows, relative to costume, by the several Grand Commanderies, with a few exceptions, and those only such as have heretofore tolerated the so-called black uniform, it was to be supposed that at the Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment just closed in this city, stringent measures would be adopted looking to a strict enforcement of the uniform question, and that gew-gaws and gold lace improperly added, would have been abolished and their use become obsolete. Indeed, General Order No. 3, having been aimed at military coats, brass buttons, and superfluous gold lace and ornaments, quite as much as against the black costume, and having been endorsed and sustained in jurisdictions heretofore delinquent in those particulars, it was reasonable to expect that at the late Grand Conclave, none of such monstrosities would appear, and that the regulation costume, in the beauty of its simplicity, would alone be seen. But not so; military coats with brass buttons ranged as if for Major Generals and Brigadier Generals of the army, were to be seen in large numbers; fatigue caps heavily coated with gold-lace, and even chapeaus similarly decorated, were in great plenty; belts, heavy with gold, and even collars covered with decorations, were quite common; and not only did it appear as if each State Grand Commandery had its own peculiar distinctions, but single Commanderies, and even individual Knights, appeared clothed as their own undisturbed fancy had dictated, in open contempt and defiance, not only of the regulations of the Grand Encampment, but of those of their Grand Commanderies.

Indeed, every State Grand Commandery represented, appeared to have more or less distinctions for itself in the uniform of its fraters, and the only considerable number from any State, in the pure and simple regulation costume, were those of our own jurisdiction, where it has been rigorously observed and enforced.

With this sight before us, prior to the opening of the Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment, we were not to be surprised by the action taken by that body.

The preliminary step was to approve the issuance of General Orders No. 3; this was imperative, as it was clearly the duty of the Grand Master to so act, under the mandates to him directed by the Constitution of the Grand Encampment. It was then proposed to effectually prevent the re-issuance of any similar order, and that part of the Constitution which makes it the duty of the Grand Master to see that the dress of Templar Masonry everywhere is uniform, was solemnly repealed, and that duty being vested nowhere else, it follows that the Grand Encampment has surrendered all control over the matter of preserving and enforcing a uniform costume.

But to place the matter beyond the possibility of a doubt, a resolution was adopted allowing all Commanderies now wearing the black costume to continue its use; and another, that in any State where the black costume is now in use, the Grand Commandery thereof, may permit any Commandery in its jurisdiction to adopt and use the same.

This makes the proposition impregnable, that the Grand Encampment will never again interfere with any of its constituents or subordinates on the question of costume, and its authority having been thus abandoned, it behooves this Grand Commandery to look to its own interests, and to take such steps as may be necessary to indicate its authority and to protect its prerogatives before it also shall lose power and control. Heretofore you have only upheld the law of the Grand Encampment and enforced it in this jurisdiction; but now there is no law of that body, for that which the law-makers stand by and see actively and continually violated, and which violation they encourage and abet, and when such law-makers openly repeal the only clause in the fundamental law which requires the enforcement of such decrees, they are in reality no longer law, and not worthy of any respect or consideration.

Now, unless this Grand Commandery at once exercises its powers, and assume complete control of this matter within this jurisdiction, the time will come, and that soon, when the love of finery and display will seize Knight after Knight, until we shall have no two fraters in our ranks clothed alike; then, when each representative on this floor shall have his own private interests to protect, it will be as impossible for us to enforce our decrees, as the Grand Encampment found it to enforce hers; for as the law now stands, there is really nothing to prevent any of us from adding or subtracting from our uniform as we please.

I trust, therefore, that you will at once take this matter in hand, as many of our sister Grand Commanderies have already done, and prescribe and enforce a regulation costume for Louisiana, and to this end I would recommend that this matter be referred at once to a committee, to report, if possible, at this session. In this connection, I would suggest, that as little departure as possible be made from the late regulation costume of the Grand Encampment, as described and explained by Grand Master Fellows, but I think this an admirable opportunity to do way with the shoulder straps, which have been always regarded as an abomination in this State; but as distinctions are necessary for the various Grand and Subordinate officers, your Committee would have to settle that; as matters now stand, there is no distinction between the decorations of a Grand Commander and a Grand Warden, and there should surely be some, and those so marked as to admit of no mistake even at a single glance; this might be accomplished in various ways, by slight additions to the belt, chapeau and fatigue hat, or in other ways that may be suggested, and at the same time the changes be very simple and unexperience, and the burden thereof falling principally, if not entirely, upon the officers. When the system is complete and adopted, fasten it so that nothing but a very large and nearly unanimous vote of this body can repeal it, and enforce it with all the vim and vigor possible. In this manner, and in my humble opinion, in this manner alone, can the great desideratum, uniformity, be obtained, and thus only can we hereafter expect to make a respectable and soldierly appearance in public.

* * * * *

VIRGINIA.

On 9th October, I received a letter from Sir William B. Isaacs, R. E. Grand Commander of Virginia, in reply to my general circular of invitation to all Knight Templars to attend the Grand Encampment, requesting to know whether Richmond Commandery No. 2, would be allowed to come here and wear in public the old or "black" uniform. I replied on 29th October, in what I thought appropriate terms, and certainly as kindly and politely as in my power to be so, that the wearing of that uniform was prohibited generally by the edict of the Grand Master, and especially in this jurisdiction by edict of this Grand Commandery and by my own orders, and that I could not grant the permission. On the 4th November, Grand Commander Isaacs answered, and advised me that Richmond Commandery would decline our invitation to visit us, in the same spirit that they would decline an individual invitation, "if that invitation was accompanied with an *order* dictating the clothing they should wear;" and that that reason would prevent his own attendance.

I was severely tempted to reply by calling the attention of Grand Commander Isaacs to the parable of the "*wedding garment*," or to carry out his own simile, by asking if he would attend an evening F. F. V. reception in a frock coat; but I am glad that I refrained, for my letter was most unjustly, I think, treated as an act of inhospitality, and with the consent of Grand Master Isaacs, which must have been obtained, Richmond Commandery No. 2 published the correspondence between us to the world, in a circular issued by them,

which my doings in the premises were so stigmatized. This I have from information received, for no copy of said circular has ever reached me, and no notice given me that it was or was to be issued. Besides, after quoting the correspondence in his last address to his Grand Commandery, Grand Commander Isaacs expressly avows that it is not his "purpose to discuss the question of *hospitality* at issue," showing that he thinks there is one, but I feel certain that there is not, and while I submit to my fraters everywhere that I could not have acted otherwise in the premises, I simply appeal against the charge of inhospitality, from Grand Commander Isaacs, to the many Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, who visited us during the session of the Grand Encampment in this city, and I leave my vindication in their hands.

PORTRAIT OF GRAND MASTER FELLOWS.

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the last Annual Conclave, I caused a portrait of Sir John Q. A. Fellows, Grand Master of Knights Templar, to be engraved from a photograph by Sir John H. Clark, and sent two thousand copies thereof to Sir Knight Parvin, Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, to be bound up with the next volume of the transactions of that body, and had also sufficient to accompany the proceedings of our last Annual Conclave. The work has been much admired, not only for its execution, but for the excellent likeness that does great credit to Sir Knight Clark.

GRAND COMMANDERY No. 4.

The resolution passed by you at your last Annual Conclave, refusing the petition of this Commandery for the re-imbursement of fees, having been re-considered, I was requested to communicate with the Grand Master on the question brought forward in said petition, which I have done, and now lay before you his reply, hereto appended.

RELIEF FOR THE OVERFLOWED.

About the 6th August, I received a letter from Sir Wiley M. Egan, Past Grand Commander of Illinois, enclosing a check for fifty dollars for the relief of the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction who might be suffering from the overflow; as I knew of none such, and that sufficient funds for those in distress had already been raised elsewhere, I returned the check with thanks; but it is highly proper that this magnanimous and generous action should be specially and officially noticed in your proceedings.

GRAND LODGE.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana of 1874, several resolutions of welcome to our Templar visitors were adopted, and the Grand Lodge Hall placed at the disposition of the Grand Encampment; and in accordance therewith, Grand Master Girard appointed Bros. Edwin Marks, G. H. Pabst, Ernest Morel, E. A. Tyler and A. L. Abbot, a Committee of Arrangements on the part of the Grand Lodge; I have been greatly assisted by the Grand Master and the Committee, and suggest that a vote of thanks of this Grand Commandery be tendered to them.

LOUISIANA JOCKEY CLUB.

This body of gentlemen, anxious to do something to make the stay of our visitors pleasant to them, presented a magnificent pair of silver pitchers as a testimonial to the Commandery exhibiting the best drill and appearance at our Grand Parade and Review, and selected Generals Beauregard, Emory, Hood, Gibson and Col. Floyd-Jones, as Judges, who awarded it to St. Louis Commandery No. 1, of Missouri. I recommend that this kind action of the club be appropriately recognized.

In conclusion, I have to tender my thanks to all the officers and Sir Knights of this jurisdiction for the assistance they have rendered me in my discharge of the duties of this high office; and submitting herewith my orders, letter book and files for your further information of my actions, I trust that the events of the past year may ever remain pleasant recollections in your minds.

On motion of R. E. Sir R. Lambert, the address was received and referred to a committee of three for distribution; and R. E. Sirs J. Q. A. Fellows, R. Lambert and Jos. H. DeGrange, appointed said committee.

DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING GRAND COMMANDER'S
REPORT.

*General and Special Orders issued by Sir Joseph P. Hornor, R. E.
Grand Commander.*

February 23, 1874.

General Order No. 1.

Eminent Commanders of all Commanderies in this jurisdiction are hereby notified that a series of Monthly Drills are ordered at Grand Lodge Hall, commencing Saturday, March 14th, 1874, at 7½ o'clock P. M., under the supervision of the Grand Captain General. You will so order the Officers and Sir Knights of your several Commands.

February 28, 1874.

General Order No. 2.

Officers and Sir Knights of this jurisdiction will strictly conform to the Fatigue Dress, conferring the Order of the R. C. or for transaction of general business in the Asylum, and to the Full Dress at conferring the Order of the Temple.

June 28, 1874.

General Orders No. 3.

I. The officers and members of the Subordinate Commanderies of this jurisdiction will assemble at the Grand Lodge Hall on Wednesday, 24th instant, at 3:15 P. M., punctually, for celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist.

II. The route of the procession will be from the Grand Lodge Hall to Canal street, Canal to Camp, Camp to Julia, Julia to Carondelet and down Carondelet to the McGehee Methodist Church. After the religious ceremonies, the Grand Commandery will move to Lafayette Square for dress parade.

III. The McGehee Methodist Church, on Carondelet street, will be open for the admission of invited guests at half-past three o'clock. Sir Knights detailed upon the Reception Committee will report to the Grand Captain General at 3 P. M. for final instructions at the Grand Lodge Hall.

June 24, 1874.

General Order No. 4.

The regular Drill of the Grand Commandery heretofore held at Grand Lodge Hall, on the second and third Saturdays of each month, will hereafter take place on the second and third Thursdays of each month, at 7½ o'clock P. M., until further orders.

Eminent Commanders of the several Commanderies will have the Officers and Sir Knights of their respective Commanderies notified of each Drill at least two days previous.

July 9, 1874.

General Order No. 5.

1. A Field Encampment of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, assisted by detachments from the Grand Commanderies of Mississippi, Texas and Alabama, will be held at Biloxi, Miss., commencing on Friday, 7th August, and to continue until Tuesday evening, 11th August.

2. The expenses attending the Encampment will amount to twelve (\$12) dollars per man, including traveling expenses, and those intending to participate will pay that sum to the Eminent Commanders of their Commandery, on or before August 1, 1874.

3. Arrangements will be made for quarters, sustenance and music, and other general necessities of the Encampment, Sir Knights will need to bring with them only their personal clothing, equipments and blankets.

July 30, 1874

General Order No. 6.

1. The officers and Sir Knights of the subordinate Commanderies who are to participate in the Encampment at Biloxi, Miss., will assemble at Grand Lodge Hall, on Friday, August 7th, at 2 o'clock P. M., and march to the New Orleans and Mobile Railroad Depot, head of Canal street, for the 3 o'clock train.

2. Each Sir Knight will have his baggage marked by tag or otherwise, with his name and the name of his Commandery. Each Commandery will leave at the depot a person to receive, store separately and care for the baggage until it reaches their quarters at the camp ground.

3. Eminent Commanders will have collected and turn over to the R. E. Grand Commander, on or before the 5th day of August, the assessment of \$12 per man, and receive from him the tickets for the encampment.

October 1, 1874.

General Order No. 7.

The *Grand Commandery Drills* heretofore ordered for the second and third Thursdays of each month, are hereby discontinued until further orders.

November 11, 1874.

General Order No. 8.

The following orders are hereby promulgated for the guidance of the Officers and Sir Knights, of this jurisdiction, during the 19th Tri-ennial Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States:

1. The Staff of the Grand Commander consists of the Officers of the Grand Commandery, and they will report for duty at Head-quarters, St. Charles Hotel, on Saturday, November 28, 1874, at 7 P. M. Past Grand Commanders of this jurisdiction are requested to act upon the Staff of the Grand Commander, and report accordingly.

2. The Eminent Commanders of this jurisdiction, will have their respective Commanderies ready to perform escort duty Sunday, November 30, at 7½ o'clock, A. M. Each Commandery will receive its special orders as to when and where it is to perform escort, through the Grand Captain General.

3. Each Eminent Commander will detail from his Commandery, three Sir Knights for special duty during the Conclave of the Grand Encampment; who will report direct to the R. E. Grand Commander; and six Sir Knights daily, for additional duty as Reception Committee at the several Head-quarters of Visiting Commanderies.

4. The full dress will be worn for escort duty and parades, the fatigue dress for all detail and committee duty. All Sir Knights attached to this jurisdiction will wear the fatigue cap and Grand Commandery badge, at all times during the session of the Grand Encampment, when off duty, that our visiting Fraters may know to whom they can apply for information.

5. The Grand and Subordinate Commanderies of this jurisdiction, will assemble in full dress uniform, on Common street, right resting on St. Charles

street, extending towards the river, to escort the Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment from St. Charles Hotel to the Masonic Temple. The line will be formed promptly at 9½ o'clock, A. M., Tuesday, December 1st. Each Commandery will have a detail of ten Sir Knights at Head-quarters of Grand Commandery to act as escort to Commanderies arriving during the parade. Visiting Commanderies desirous of joining the escort, will report to the Grand Captain General, at or before eight o'clock, on the morning of the parade.

6. Orders in detail, will be issued in due time, with reference to the Grand Parade of all the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies to take place on Friday, December 4, 1874.

7. This Grand Commandery will establish its Head-quarters at the St. Charles Hotel, November 28, from which all orders will emanate during the session of the Grand Encampment.

November 23, 1874.

General Orders No. 9.

The following will be observed as the order of parade for Tuesday, December 1st, 1874, to escort the officers of the Grand Encampment from the St. Charles Hotel to the Masonic Hall.

All Commanderies appearing as distinctive bodies under their own officers, will form as such according to rank or number.

1. Mississippi Commandery No. 1, Magnolia Commandery No. 2 and Askalon Commandery No. 16, will form on Common, between Carondelet and Baronne, right resting on Carondelet Street.

2. Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2 and Orleans Commandery No. 3, will form on Common Street, right resting on St. Charles Street, left extending towards the river.

3. Commanderies from New York and Ohio will form on Common Street, right resting on Camp Street, left extending towards the river.

4. Commanderies from Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Texas and Michigan, will form on Gravier Street, right resting on Carondelet, left extending towards the river.

5. Commanderies from Illinois and Tennessee will form on Gravier, between Carondelet and Baronne, right resting on Carondelet.

6. St. Louis Commandery No. 1, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8, and other Commanderies of Missouri, will form on Carondelet Street, right resting on Gravier Street, left extending towards Poydras Street.

7. Commanderies from Georgia, Alabama, Minnesota, Kansas and District of Columbia, will form on Poydras Street, right resting on Carondelet Street, left extending towards the river.

8. Sir Knights as individuals or in small detachments, but not as distinctive Commanderies, will be assigned positions from these Headquarters on the morning of the parade, or fall in as members with such Commanderies as they may select.

9. The officers of the Grand Encampment will be furnished with carriages at the Common Street entrance of the St. Charles Hotel. Such State Grand officers and members of the Grand Encampment who do not appear with their subordinate Commanderies, will immediately precede the mounted escort of the Grand Encampment on foot.

10. De Molay Commandery No. 4, of Washington, D. C., will report direct to the Grand Master, and be subject to his order and to act as his special escort.

11. All Sir Knights participating will be in full regulation uniform.

At the command march, divisions will move in the following order :

Band of the Third United States Infantry.

1. Louisiana, New York and Ohio.
2. Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Texas and Michigan.
3. Illinois, Tennessee and Missouri.
4. Georgia, Alabama, Minnesota, Kansas and District of Columbia.
5. All Sir Knights appearing as individuals and not as Commanderies.
6. Members of the Grand Encampment, ex-officio or by proxy, on foot.
7. Grand Master's Body Guard, De Molay Commandery No. 4, Washington, D. C., Mounted.
8. Officers of the Grand Encampment of the United States in carriages, accompanied by Bro. M. E. Girard, Grand Master of Masons in Louisiana.

SPECIAL ORDERS.

1. The Reception Committee will report promptly at 8½ o'clock, A. M., at Grand Commandery Headquarters.
2. All Sir Knights will be on foot except the Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment, who will be in carriages; the Grand Commander and his staff, who will be mounted, and the special Guard of Honor of the Grand Master.
3. All officers of the Grand Commander's staff will report to him at these Headquarters promptly at 8½ o'clock, A. M., to receive instructions.

LINE OF MARCH.

Out Carondelet to south side of Canal, to Rampart, to St. Louis, to Royal, to north side of Canal, to Camp, to Calliope, to St. Charles, to the Hall. The right of the line will halt when within half a block of the Hall, face to the front, and dress the line back to the east side of the street; Sir Knights at attention, officers two and four paces to the front of the line; Commandants of each body, commencing at the left, will bring their commands to a present as the Grand Encampment passes from left to right, and carry as soon as they have passed. When the Grand Encampment have entered the Hall the line will break into column and move forward to the Hall or their quarters, Louisiana standing fast at attention until all other Commanderies have passed.

November 27, 1874.

General Order No. 10.

Mississippi Commandery No. 1, of Jackson, Magnolia Commandery No. 2, of Vicksburg, and Askalon Commandery No. 16, of St. Louis, having, with permission of their respective Grand Commanderies, reported to these Headquarters for duty during the Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, will, during that time, be considered a part of this Grand Commandery.

The staff of the Grand Commander is composed of the following officers and committees:

- Sir Samuel Manning Todd, Past Grand Commander.
- Sir John A. Stevenson, Past Grand Commander.
- Sir Richard Lambert, Past Grand Commander.
- Sir Joseph H. DeGrange, Past Grand Commander.
- Sir John A. Peel, Deputy Grand Commander.
- Sir Rufus L. Bruce, Grand Generalissimo.
- Sir William L. Stanford, Grand Captain General.
- Sir J. C. Carpenter, Grand Prelate.
- Sir E. E. Adams, Acting Senior Grand Warden.
- Sir Zebulon M. Pike, Junior Grand Warden.
- Sir Gustavus Sontag, Grand Recorder.
- Sir Dewitt C. Peck, Grand Standard Bearer.
- Sir Andrew Hero, Jr., Grand Sword Bearer.
- Sir George J. Pinckard, Grand Warden.
- Sir Raymond S. Burk, Grand Captain of the Guard.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Sir John A. Peel, *Chairman*, Sir William S. Pike, Sir Albert Baldwin, Sir Livingston H. Gardner.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Sir Rufus L. Bruce, *Chairman*, Sir John A. Stevenson, Sir Alf. H. Isaacson, Sir James Wallace, Sir Robert E. Rivers.

December 2, 1874.

General Order No. 11.

The following orders are promulgated for the guidance of Sir Knights on the occasion of the parade to take place on Friday, December 4th :

STAFF OF GRAND COMMANDER.

Sir Samuel Manning Todd, P. G. Commander.
 Sir John A. Stevenson, P. G. Commander.
 Sir Richard Lambert, P. G. Commander.
 Sir Joseph H. DeGrange, P. G. Commander.
 Sir John A. Peel, Deputy G. Commander.
 Sir Rufus L. Bruce, Grand Generalissimo.
 Sir William L. Stanford, Grand Captain General.
 Sir J. C. Carpenter, Grand Prelate.
 Sir E. E. Adams, Acting Senior Grand Warden.
 Sir Zebulon M. Pike, Junior Grand Warden.
 Sir Gustavus Sontag, Grand Recorder.
 Sir De Witt C. Peck, Grand Standard Bearer.
 Sir Andrew Hero, Jr., Grand Sword Bearer.
 Sir George J. Pinckard, Grand Warder.
 Sir Charles R. Woodruff, Past G. C., Kentucky.
 Sir Philip Reed, U. S. Army.
 Sir William S. Pike, Jacques De Molay Commandery No. 2, Louisiana.
 Sir Albert Baldwin, Orleans Commandery No. 3, Louisiana.
 Sir Livingston H. Gardner, Orleans Commandery No. 3, Louisiana.
 Sir Alfred H. Isaacson, Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, Louisiana.
 Sir James Wallace, Indivisible Friends Commandery, No. 1 Louisiana.
 Sir Robert Rivers, Orleans Commandery, No. 3, Louisiana.
 Sir Edward A. Burke, Jacques De Molay Commandery, No. 2, Louisiana.

1. The several divisions will assemble promptly at 10 o'clock A. M., according to seniority of Grand Commanderies.

2. The line will be formed on the south side of Canal street, resting on St. Charles, extending on Dryade on north side, extending toward the river, at open order, officers to the front, and dressed back sufficient distance to permit the Grand Master to drive along the front for inspection, at which time the bands will play and colors salute.

3. The M. E. Grand Master will receive a marching salute of one hundred guns from Company B, Louisiana Artillery, under command of Captain J. D. Edwards.

4. After the Grand Master has passed from right to left, the line will close its ranks and break into column of threes to the right, and at the command march will move on their route.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

FIRST DIVISION.

- Sir E. E. ADAMS, A. G., Senior Warden, Commanding.
 Third Infantry Band.
 Grand Commander of Louisiana and Staff.
 Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, Louisiana.
 Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2, Louisiana.
 Orleans Commandery No. 3, Louisiana.
 Grand Commandery Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
 Grand Commandery, New York.
 Grand Commandery, Virginia.
 Grand Commandery, Connecticut.

SECOND DIVISION.

- Sir Z. M. PIKE, G. Junior Warden, Commanding.
 Grand Commandery, Ohio.
 Reed Commandery No. 6, Dayton, Ohio.
 Grand Commandery, Kentucky.
 Louisville Commandery No. 1, Kentucky.
 Grand Commandery, Vermont.
 Grand Commandery, Pennsylvania.

THIRD DIVISION.

- Sir D. W. C. PECK, Grand Standard Bearer, Commanding.
 Grand Commandery, Indiana.
 Terre Haute Commandery No. 16, Indiana.
 Grand Commandery, Texas.
 Grand Commandery, Michigan.
 Grand Commandery, Mississippi.
 Mississippi Commandery No. 1, Jackson, Miss.
 Magnolia Commandery No. 2, Vicksburg, Miss.
 Grand Commandery, Illinois.
 Elwood Commandery, No. 6, Illinois.
 Cairo Commandery, No. 13, Illinois.
 Chicago Commandery, No. 19, Illinois.
 Hugh de Payan Commandery No. 29, Illinois.
 Hospitaller Commandery No. 13, Illinois.

FOURTH DIVISION.

- Sir ANDREW HERO, Jr., Grand Sword Bearer, Commanding.
 Grand Commandery, California.
 Grand Commandery, Tennessee.
 Grand Commandery, Wisconsin.
 Grand Commandery, New Jersey.
 Grand Commandery, Missouri.
 St. Louis Commandery No. 1, of Missouri.
 Ascalon Commandery No. 16, of Missouri.
 St. Aldemar Commandery No. 18, of Missouri.

FIFTH DIVISION.

- Sir GEO. J. PINCKARD, Grand Warder, Commanding.
 Grand Commandery, New Hampshire.
 Grand Commandery, Georgia.
 Grand Commandery, Alabama.
 Grand Commandery, Iowa.
 Grand Commandery, Minnesota.
 Grand Commandery, Kansas.
 Grand Commandery, Maryland.
 Washington Commandery No. 1, of D. C.
 Columbia Commandery No. 2, of D. C.
 Sir Knights from Delaware and Nebraska.

The Grand Encampment of the United States, with De Molay Commandery, No. 4, Washington, D. C., as body guard to the Grand Master.

LINE OF MARCH.

St. Charles street to First, to Magazine to Calliope, to Camp to north side Canal, to Royal to Esplanade, to Chartres to St. Louis, to Peters to South side of Canal, to Carondelet to Gravier, when the several Commanderies break off to their quarters or elsewhere, as the parade will be considered dismissed, after having passed in review by the Grand Master and Committee on Award of Testimonials at Clay Statute.

The Judges will be stationed at three points on the line of march, viz: Exposition Hall, the residence of Grand Commander Hornor, Magazine street, between Race and Orange, and Clay Statute.

Red flags will be displayed two blocks in advance of the Judges' stand in each instance.

March 27, 1874.

Special Order No. 1.

Eminent Commanders are hereby notified to order the Officers and Sir Knights of their Commanderies to attend the Monthly Drills of the Grand Commandery, at Grand Lodge Hall, Saturday, April 11, at 7½ P. M., and the second Saturday of each month thereafter, until further orders.

May 9, 1874.

Special Order No. 2.

1. The several Officers of the subordinate Commanderies will attend Officers' Drill Saturday evening next, May 16th, at 7½ o'clock, prepared to report as to the number of members of their Commanderies, who will be equipped and able to participate in the proposed Field Encampment at Biloxi in August next.

2. Application having been made to the Grand Commander for permission to have a Dress Parade and Review in public, and to hold the public religious exercises of the Order in celebration of St. John the Baptist's Day, June 24th, it is announced that such parade may take place and be made by the Commanderies of this city, moving together as the Grand Commandery; provided, that each of said Commanderies shall be able by that date to turn out at least thirty members fully equipped and sufficiently drilled to appear in public. If the three Commanderies cannot all comply with the requirements of this proviso, the permission will be extended to any single Commandery who can parade forty members or more.

June 24, 1874.

Special Order No. 3.

Sir E. E. Adams is hereby temporarily detailed to act as Grand Senior Warden to this Grand Commandery, in the absence from the city of the Senior Grand Warden Em. Sir M. E. Girard.

July 11, 1874.

Special Order No. 4.

Sir E. A. Burke is hereby detailed as Quartermaster and Commissary General to this Grand Commandery, and will immediately enter upon his duties as such, reporting direct to this office.

July 30, 1874.

Special Order No. 5.

Eminent Commanders of this jurisdiction : The accompanying communication from the Grand Master of the United States is hereby promulgated for the information of such Officers and Past Officers of your body as it may concern—and will be strictly enforced in this jurisdiction.

[Copy.]

"GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,"
 "OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER,"
 "New Orleans, July 15th, 1874." }

"R. E. Joseph P. Hornor, Gr. Com. of Gr. Com. of La.:"

"R. E. SIR AND DEAR FRATER—In response to your verbal request, and as already replied to the Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, I have to say that :

"A strict construction would include every Past Grand Officer among those entitled to wear the Templar's Cross, and that, after a careful consideration, I can give no other interpretation to the edict. This, as to the *crosses*, as found in the edict, and which are to be worn on the side of the chapeau, or cap, gauntlets and scabbard of the sword.

"But I am constrained to give another interpretation to the right of Past Officers to wear the shoulder straps. These are to be worn only by those Past Grand Officers who, by virtue of the office which has been held by them, are, under the Constitution, permanent members of the Grand Commandery, or say the first four. As Past Commanders are expressly named as of the only grade of officers in the Commandery who are entitled to wear the shoulder strap, by the same reasoning I would interpret the phrase ; 'For all other officers of the Grand Encampment,' as including the three Past Grand Officers, not lower in rank to the Grand Master. I add this, not in response to your question, but to show my course of reasoning, and some of the difficulties attending the question.

"Courteously yours,

(Signed)

"J. Q. A. FELLOWS,

"Grand Master."

August 17, 1874.

Special Order No. 6.

EMINENT COMMANDERS OF NOS. 1, 2 and 3—After the 1st day of September, 1874, the regulations of General Order No. 2, with regard to dress in the Asylum, must be by you strictly enforced, as this Grand Commandery can only look to the Eminent Commanders of the subordinate Commanderies for the full enforcement of all orders emanating from this Office.

Exceptions—Newly created Sir Knights should have thirty days from the time they are made such, to procure uniforms. Strangers from other jurisdictions wishing to visit are not subject to these orders.

You will immediately promulgate this, together with General Order No. 2, to all Sir Knights of your command, also, to each newly created Sir Knights when receiving his orders.

By order of

JOSEPH P. HORNOR,

Grand Commander.

W. L. STANFORD,

Grand Captain General.

In account with the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, of Louisiana:

Grand Treasurer.

NEW ORLEANS, February 12, 1875.

SIR KNIGHTS—Since the last Annual Conclave, and in compliance with a resolution adopted, I have caused to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings, and distributed a number of them in the accustomed manner.

In obedience to orders from the R. E. Grand Commander, on the 14th day of January, 1875, I delivered to Sir John A. Peel, Deputy Grand Commander, special orders issued on that day, and on the 21st of the same month, I caused to be delivered to Sir John A. Peel, General Orders No. 13, issued on the 19th January, 1875.

I have turned over to the Grand Secretary of the M. W. Grand Lodge, all duplicate proceedings of Sister Grand Commanderies, for the Grand Lodge Library.

Accompanying is my account current, which I present for your consideration.

Courteously submitted,

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

NEW ORLEANS, February 12, 1875.

G. SONTAG, *Grand Recorder,*

In account with the Grand Commandery of Louisiana:

1874.

| | |
|--|---------|
| July 6—To Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, for C. | |
| E. U. S..... | \$4 85 |
| .. 6— .. Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2, for G. | |
| E. U. S..... | 6 00 |
| .. 6— .. Orleans Commandery No. 3, for G. E. U. S.... | 4 85 |
| .. 6— .. Girard Commandery No. 4, for G. E. U. S.... | 1 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$16 40 |

1874.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Aug. 15—By amount paid Grand Encampment U. S..... | \$16 40 |
|---|---------|

1875.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Jan. 5—To Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2..... | \$100 00 |
| .. 5— .. Girard Commandery No. 4..... | 5 00 |
| .. 12— .. Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1..... | 105 00 |
| .. 12— .. Orleans Commandery No. 3 | 95 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$305 00 |

1875.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Feb. 8—By Grand Treasurer..... | 105 00 |
| .. 12— | 200 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$305 00 |

1874.

| | |
|---|----------|
| To Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2 | \$100 00 |
| .. Orleans Commandery No. 3..... | 100 00 |
| .. Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1 | 100 00 |
| | <hr/> |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Paid to Grand Treasurer | \$300 00 |
|-------------------------------|----------|

300 00

| | |
|--|--------|
| Total amount received during year..... | 605 00 |
|--|--------|

605 00

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

V. E. Sir W. R. Whitaker, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, stated that he was not prepared to make his report at present, and asked to be permitted to submit the same to the R. E. Grand Commander, and on his approval, to have it printed with the proceedings—which request was granted.

The Special Committee on the Address of the R. E. Grand Commander, made the following report, which was received, resolutions adopted, and action on same deferred until an adjourned Conclave:

NEW ORLEANS, February 12, 1875.

R. E. Grand Commander, State of Louisiana :

Your Committee, to whom was referred the distribution of the R. E. Grand Commander's Address, respectfully beg leave to report that they have performed their duty, and offer the following resolutions :

Resolved, 1st.—That so much as pertains to the death of Eminent Fraters, be referred to a special committee of three.

2d.—That the appointments of Grand Representatives to our Sister Grand Commanderies be approved, and those appointed near the Grand Commandery be received with appropriate honors.

3d.—That so much as pertains to the general transactions of the celebrations of the 24th of June, 1874, the encampment at Biloxi, and the meeting of the General Grand Encampment, held in December, 1874, be referred to a special committee of three.

4th.—That the R. E. G. Commander appoint a special committee of five, Past Eminent Commanders, to take into consideration the question of uniform.

5th.—That the subject of finances, including the matter of Girard Commandery No. 4, be referred to a special committee of three, to be styled the Finance Committee.

6th.—That the action of the R. E. Grand Commander, in reference to Virginia be approved.

7th.—That all orders issued by the R. E. G. C., special and general, be approved.

JOS. H. DeGRANGE,

RICH. LAMBERT.

J. Q. A. FELLOWS.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Commandery adjourn, it be until Wednesday, the 17th inst., at 7 P. M.

The R. E. Grand Commander then announced the following committees, as per resolutions offered by the Committee on his Address :

On Obituary—Sirs J. C. Carpenter, H. C. Duncan and James B. Scot.

On General Transactions of Celebration of 24th June, Encampment at Biloxi, and Meeting of Grand Encampment United States—Sirs Berry Russell, Harvey Cree and J W. Madden.

On Uniform—Sirs Samuel M. Todd, John A. Stevenson, W. L. Stanford, M. E. Girard and Berry Russell.

On Finance—Sirs Samuel Alston, D. C. Johnston and E. Baker.

E. Sir John G. Fleming submitted the following, which was received, and laid over until next Wednesday's Conclave.

Resolved, That the subordinate Commanderies of this jurisdiction are earnestly recommended to exclude from any participation in their Rights, Ceremonies or Processions, all members who may remain in this jurisdiction over twelve months, unaffiliated with some Lodge, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, or be a member in good standing of some Lodge elsewhere.

The Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, Sirs John A. Stevenson and Thomas Cripps acting as tellers, which resulted as follows:

SIR JOSEPH HENRY DEGRANGE, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2,

R. E. Grand Commander.

SIR MICHEL ELOI GIRARD, of Girard Commandery No. 4.

V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.

SIR BERRY RUSSELL, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

E. Grand Generalissimo.

SIR HARVEY CREE, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

E. Grand Captain General.

SIR JOHN CHAUNCEY CARPENTER, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

E. Grand Prelate.

SIR JOHN WILLIAM MADDEN, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

E. Senior Grand Warden.

SIR SAMUEL ALSTON, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

E. Junior Grand Warden.

SIR SAM'L MANNING TODD, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

E. Grand Treasurer.

SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

E. Grand Recorder.

The R. E. Grand Commander elect, then announced the appointment of the following appointed officers:

SIR GEORGE SOULE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.

E. Grand Standard Bearer.

SIR EDWARD BAKER, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

E. Grand Sword Bearer.

SIR ROBERT STRONG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.

E. Grand Warder.

SIR RAYMOND STEPHEN BURK, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

E. Grand Captain of the Guard.

On motion, the installation of the Grand Officers was postponed until the adjourned Conclave of next Wednesday.

The Grand Commandery was then adjourned until Wednesday, the 17th inst., at 7 o'clock, P. M.

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

ADJOURNED CONCLAVE.

NEW ORLEANS, February 17th, A. D. 1875, A. O. 757.

The Grand Commandery assembled, and was called from rest to labor by the R. E. Grand Commander, the following

OFFICERS BEING PRESENT:

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| SIR JOSEPH P. HORNOR..... | R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. |
| " JOHN A. STEVENSON, P. G. C. as V. F. | DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER |
| " R. L. BRUCE..... | E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO. |
| " W. L. STANFORD | E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. |
| " J. C. CARPENTER..... | E. GRAND PRELATE. |
| " M. E. GIRARD..... | E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN. |
| " Z. M. PIKE..... | E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN. |
| " SAM'L M. TODD..... | E. GRAND TREASURER. |
| " G. SONTAG..... | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
| " D. W. C. PECK..... | E. GRAND STANDARD BEARER. |
| " HUGH PIERSON..... | as E. GRAND SWORD BEARER. |
| " E. E. ADAMS..... | as E. GRAND WARDER. |
| " R. S. BURK..... | E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS. |

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS..... | Past Grand Commander, |
| " J. A. STEVENSON..... | " " " |
| " R. LAMBERT..... | " " " |
| " J. H. DeGRANGE..... | " " " |
| " J. H. CLARKE..... | Past Grand Generalissimo. |
| " M. A. CALONGNE..... | " " Captain General. |
| " J. G. FLEMING..... | " " " " |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDER PRESENT:

SIR GEORGE BALDEYof Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The roll being called, the following Commanderies were found to be represented :

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Indivisible Friends Commandery..... | No. 1. |
| Jacques de Molay Commandery..... | No. 2. |
| Orleans Commandery..... | No. 3. |
| Girard Commandery..... | No. 4. |

The minutes of the session of February 12th, were read and approved.

The following report of the Committee on General Transactions was submitted, received, and the resolutions adopted :

Committee on General Transaction of the Grand Commandery beg leave to report as follows :

24TH JUNE.

That suitable acknowledgement be made to Trustees of Methodist Church for courtesies.

Would recommend the annual observance of this day.

BILOXI.

That deficiency of this Field Encampment be assumed by this Grand Commandery.

GRAND RECEPTION.

Proper resolutions be sent to Mississippi Commandery, No. 1, Magnolia Commandery, No. 2, of Mississippi, for assistance tendered and rendered, also to Battery B., Captain Jas. D. Edwards, and Adjutant General Street, of the State, for valuable assistance.

BERRY RUSSEL.

HARVEY CREE.

JOHN W. MADDEN.

NEW ORLEANS, February, 17th, 1875.

1. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Louisiana be tendered to the Trustees of the McGehee Methodist Church, for their courtesy in placing their place of worship at our disposal, for the celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, 24th June, 1874.

2. *Resolved*, That hereafter the anniversary of St. John the Baptist be annually observed by this Grand Commandery, with suitable public ceremonies and services.

3. *Resolved*, That the deficiency in the expenses of the Field Encampment at Biloxi, as reported in the address of the Grand Commander, be assumed and paid by this Grand Commandery.

4. *Resolved*, That the sincere and fraternal thanks of this Grand Commandery are hereby tendered to Mississippi Commandery, No. 1, of Jackson, Mississippi, and Magnolia Commandery, No. 2 of Vicksburg, for their valuable assistance rendered to us during the last Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, with the assurance that our hearts, hands and swords are forever at their service, with the hope of reciprocating their kindness.

5. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Commandery are tendered to Battery B., Capt. James D. Edwards, his gallant officers and men, for valuable and gratuitous services in firing salutes of welcome to our visitors, and to Adjutant General Henry Street for loan of guns.

6. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Commandery are tendered to M. W. Bro. Michel E. Girard, Grand Master of Masons of Louisiana, and to Brothers Edwin Marks, G. H. Pabst, Ernest Morel, E. A. Tyler and A. L. Abbot, the Committee of Arrangements of the Grand Lodge.

7. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Commandery are hereby tendered to the Louisiana Jockey Club for the beautiful testimonial presented by them for competition for the best drill and appearance of the Commanderies joining in our late Grand Parade and Review, and for their admirable arrangements relative to the same.

The Committee on Uniform offered the following report, which was received and adopted :

NEW ORLEANS, February 17th, 1875.

To the R. E. the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana :

The Committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Commander's Address on the subject of Uniforms and Equipments, present the following report :

UNIFORM.

Full Dress—Black cloth frock coat, ordinary length and make, black covered buttons, rolling collar; black pantaloons, baldrick, sword, belt, gauntlets, Chapeau, with such distinctions as are hereinafter made.

Fatigue Dress—Same as Full Dress, except Chapeau, instead of which a black cloth Navy Cap, with appropriate Cross in front, and distinctions as prescribed.

CHAPEAU.

Grand Commander and Past Grand Commanders—The Military Chapeau trimmed with black binding, two black plumes and one white plume, the white placed above the black, gold lace band $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide running diagonally across chapeau, front and rear; gold tassel on front; Templar Cross, 8 inches high, of red velvet, embroidered in gold, on left side of chapeau on black rosette.

Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General and Past Officers same Grade—Same Chapeau without tassel.

Grand Prelate and Prelate of Subordinate Commanderies—Same Chapeau without any trimming, three black plumes. For Grand, the Templar Cross. For Commandery Prelate, the Passion Cross.

All other Officers Grand Commandery—Same Chapeau without gold lace bands or tassel.

Commander and Past Commanders—Same Chapeau without tassel or gold lace band, Passion Cross of red velvet with rays of gold embroidery.

Generalissimo and Captain General—Same Chapeau, velvet Passion Cross, without rays, with embroidered edge.

Other Officers and Sir Knights—Same Chapeau, no other trimming, except red velvet Passion Cross with white metal edge.

FATIGUE CAP.

Grand Commander and Past Grand Commanders—Black Cloth Navy Officer's Caps, regulation height, with 4 rows gold cord on black velvet band, chin strap gold cord, gold Templar Cross buttons, gold Templar Cross in front 2 inches in height.

Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General and Past Officers same grade—Same Cap, band, chin cord, with three rows gold cord, one top, middle and bottom of band, same cross.

Grand and Subordinate Prelate—Same Cap and band, Templar Cross for Grand Prelate and Passion Cross for Subordinate.

Other Officers Grand Commandery—Same Cap, same band, with two rows gold cord, top and bottom, same chin cord and cross.

Eminent Commander and Past Eminent Commanders—Same Cap, chin cord and band with two rows gold cord, top and bottom, with gold embroidered Passion Cross with rays.

Generalissimo and Captain General—Same as Eminent Commander, with exception that cord and chin strap to be of silver fabric, Passion Cross embroidered in silver, without rays.

Other Officers of Commandery—Same as Generalissimo and Captain General, with exception of having only one row of silver cord on lower edge of cap.

Sir Knights—Same Cap, and omitting silver cord and band, cross of metal edge, with leather chin strap.

BELTS.

Grand Commander and Past Grand Commanders—Red enamel leather two inches wide, covered with gold lace, fastened in front with gold clasp, with appropriate cross.

Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General and Past Officers, same grade—Same belt, with three rows $\frac{1}{4}$ inch gold lace, at top, bottom and centre, same clasps.

Other Officers Grand Commandery—Same Belt, with two rows $\frac{1}{4}$ inch gold lace at top and bottom, same clasp.

Eminent Commander and Past Eminent Commanders—Same Belt, with two rows $\frac{1}{4}$ inch gold lace at top and bottom, clasp of Passion Cross.

Generalissimo and Captain General—Same Belt, with two rows silver lace $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide at top and bottom, Passion Cross on silver clasp.

Other Officers and Sir Knights—Same Belt without lace.

GAUNTLETS.

Buff leather, military style, with cuff extending up 4 to 6 inches from the hand, crosses to correspond with those worn on the chapeau.

The Prelates, Grand and Subordinate, to be black.

BALDRICK.

Four inches wide in the whole, of white material, bordered with black velvet, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch on either side, a strip of lace, $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch wide, on inner edge of black velvet. On the front centre a metal star of nine points, enclosing the Passion Cross, surrounded by the Latin motto "*In Hoc Signo Vincas*," the star to be $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter. The Baldrick to be worn from the right shoulder to the left hip, with the ends extending six inches below the point of intersection.

Gold lace and gold metal for officers of Grand Commandery, for Eminent Commanders, and Past Eminent Commanders. Other officers and Sir Knights of Subordinate Commanderies to wear silver lace or white metal.

For the Prelate, Grand and Subordinate, to be of black cloth or silk, same star and cross.

SWORD.

For all officers of the Grand Commandery, Eminent Commanders and Past Eminent Commanders, yellow or gold scabbards and hilt. All officers below rank of Eminent Commander and Sir Knights, of white metal, sword to be 34 to 40 inches in length inclusive of scabbard.

SHOULDER STRAPS.

As prescribed in Regulations, Grand Encampment of the United States, and shall be worn only by the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General of the Grand Commandery and past officers of the same grade, and the Eminent Commanders and Past Eminent Commanders, Generalissimos and Captain Generals of Subordinate Commanderies while in office.

DISTINCTIONS.

All other officers of the Grand Commandery and Eminent Commanderies to be distinguished by appropriate jewels of their offices, attached to the left breast.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

In all cases, officers of the Grand Commandery and Subordinate Commanders to be entitled to wear gold.

All below the rank of Eminent Commander to wear silver or white metal. The following officers of the Grand Commandery and Subordinate Commanderies only entitled to continue their marks of distinction after the expiration of their term of office: Grand Commanders, Deputy Grand Commanders, Grand Generalissimos, Grand Captain Generals, Eminent Commanders.

In presenting their report, the Committee believe that they have substantially adhered to the regulations, of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and, if adopted, they recommend that the uniform and equipments as prescribed, samples of which will be in the keeping of the Grand Recorder, be enforced in this jurisdiction.

They also recommend that the Prelate's robes in the Council of Red Cross Knights be similar to those worn by the High Priest of a Royal Arch Chapter.

Courteously Submitted,

SAM'L M. TODD.
M. E. GIRARD.
BERRY RUSSELL.
WM. L. STANFORD
JOHN A. STEVENSON.

NEW ORLEANS, February 17th, 1875.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

To the R. E. Grand Commandery:

Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the request of Girard Commandery, No. 4, for the payment to said Commandery of the fees collected by an urgent Commandery for orders confirmed, amounting to \$250, respectfully beg to report that they have examined this matter and respectfully recommend, in view of the opinion of P. C. M. Fellows on this subject, that the request be not granted.

We have examined the report of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder of this Grand Commandery, and find the same correct, and recommend that the said reports be approved.

S. ALSTON.
D. C. JOHNSTON.
E. BAKER.

NEW ORLEANS, February 17th, 1875.

After reading the opinion of Past M. E. Grand Master Fellows, the vote in regard to the request of Girard Commandery, No. 4, was reconsidered, and the request granted.

The Gommittee on Obituaries, through its Chairman, Sir J. C. Carpenter, asked permission to submit their report to the R. E. Grand Commander after the close of the Grand Conclave, their report not being ready, which was granted.

The resolution offered by E. Sir John G. Fleming at the Conclave of the 12th inst., in regard to unaffiliated Masons, was called up, and after considerable discussion, *pro* and *con*, was rejected.

The Grand Officers elect, and, appointed were then installed by R. E. Grand Commander Hornor, assisted by Past Grand Commander Stevenson, as Deputy.

On motion of Past R. E. Grand Commander Todd, a Committee on Finance was added to the regular committees, and Sirs Sam'l Alston, D. C. Johnston and E. Baker appointed said committee.

On motion of V. E. Sir M. E. Girard, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies, and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Grand Commander, for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect, and that fifty copies of the proceedings be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Correspondence.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the sum of seventy-five dollars be appropriated to E Sir Knight Grand Recorder, and ten dollars to E. Sir Knight Grand Captain of the Guards, for services rendered.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following committee :

On Foreign Correspondence—Sirs William R. Whitaker and Andrew Hero, Jr.

No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN and KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next Annual Conclave, on Friday, February 18th, A. D. 1876, A. O. 758.



JOSEPH H. DeGRANGE,

Grand Commander.

ATTEST :

Grand Recorder.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ILLUMINATION OF MASONIC HALL
AND RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO PAST DEPUTY GRAND
COMMANDER, JOHN A. PEEL, FOR SAME.**

In view of the fact that the grand and beautiful illumination of Masonic Hall during the week of the triennial session of the Grand Encampment of the United States, was at the expense of Sir Knight John A. Peel, do cheerfully recommend that a vote of thanks be given to said Sir Knight for this magnificent and attractive display, by this Grand Body and to this end do propose the following resolution.

R. L. BRUCE, P. G. G.

JOHN W. MADDEN, G. S. W.

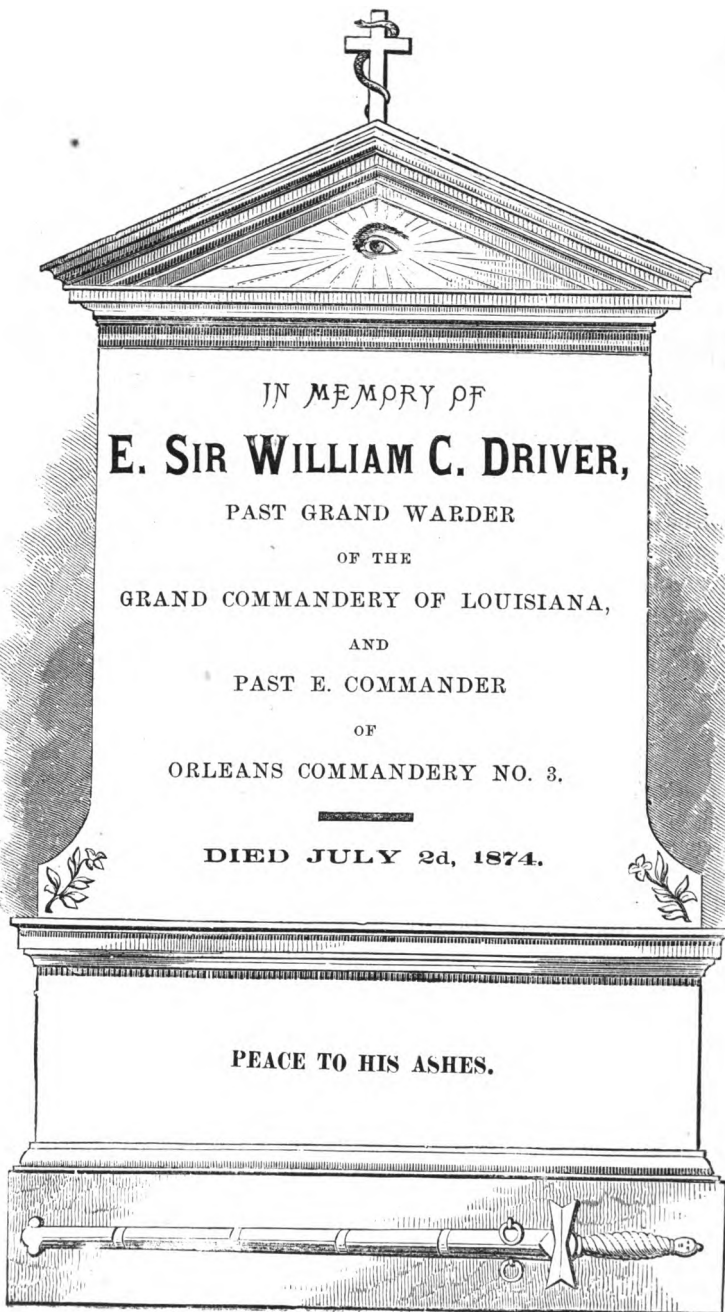
SAM'L. ALSTON, G. J. W.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Commandery be tendered to Sir Knight John A. Peel, for the beautiful and magnificent illumination of the Masonic Hall during the week of the Triennial Session of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

Approved.

JOS. H. DEGRANGE,

Grand Commander.



REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

NEW ORLEANS, February 13, 1875.

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana :

Your Committee, to whom was referred that portion of the R. E. Grand Commander's Address which related to the death of members of this Grand Body, beg leave to present the following report :

IN MEMORIAM

With every revolving year, as we come together in glad reunions and fraternal greetings, some dark shadow falls upon our hearts, as the sad tidings announce here and there a vacant chair in our circle, no more to be filled by those whom we loved and honored—that voices which once made glad music on our ears, are hushed in eternal silence—stars that beamed with radiant effulgence in our Asylums have gone down, not in darkness, but have ‘ melted away into the height of Heaven.’

Sir Knight WM. C. DRIVER, after a protracted indisposition, died on the 2nd of July. Sir Knight Driver was P. E. Commander of Orleans Commandery, F. P. Grand Warder of the Grand Commandery. His zeal in the cause of Masonry is attested by his being elected Master of his Lodge, (No. 102) some twelve or fourteen times. Sir Knight Driver will be remembered by a large circle of Masonic friends.

Sir Knight WILLIAM M. PERKINS has fallen—fallen with his full armor on, at the post of duty, vailant and magnanimous even in the last conflict and yielding only to the irresistible power of the arch enemy, to whom all must sooner or later submit; but through faith in our Divine Redeemer, he came off more than conqueror over death himself; for while the insatiate monster claimed the *mortal body* the *immortal Spirit* triumphantly ascended to the brighter glories and richer rewards of the faithful, whither the Great Captain of our salvation has gone.

We mourn our loss, but rejoice in his eternal gain. While *with* us we delighted to honor him with the highest offices and most responsible positions in the gift of the fraternity, and he has left a name and example bright with every virtue, as a rich legacy to Templarism and Masonry in all its branches.

May God sanctify this severe bereavement, not only to *our* good and the good of his stricken family, but to this entire community, by whom he was honored and respected in the highest degree as a merchant, a citizen and a friend. “Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.”

And yet another.—Sir Knight WILLIAM S. PIKE, whose name was a household word in every branch of our *mystic* family, has also laid his armor by and gone to his reward. In the death of this distinguished Sir Knight, not only

this Grand Body has sustained an irreparable loss, but a vacancy is made in all of the Masonic Grand Bodies of this jurisdiction, which it will be difficult to fill. His earnest and zealous devotion to the advancement of our Order, through many years of the past, and his living example of Masonic virtues have stamped his memory indelibly upon our hearts.

But not greater is our loss than that which the whole business community of New Orleans sustains. The spirit of enterprise with which he inspired others, in leading off in every great scheme which tended to the prosperity of our city, and the readiness with which he employed his large capital to this end, won for him the highest esteem and respect of all.

The removal from our midst of such men as Sir Knights Perkins and Pike, is indeed a loss to Masonry, and to the community. While we deeply and sincerely share our sympathies with the bereaved families of our departed ones, let us bow submissively to our Father's will, and as we cherish their memories,

"Let us draw their mantles' o'er us,
Which have fallen on our way;
Let us do the work before us,
Cheerily, bravely, while we may,
E're the long night-silence cometh, and with us it is not day."

Our sister jurisdictions have also been called upon to part with vaillant and distinguished Knights. Sir Knight A. E. Adams, of Minnesota; Wm. C. Munger, of Kentucky; and Frank P. Jarvis, of Alabama, all Grand Representatives of Louisiana. Their respective G. Commanderies have done full justice to their memories, and our limits will only permit us to extend to our bereaved *fraters* our heartfelt sympathies, and pray God to raise up others to fill their places with equal fidelity and honor to our beloved fraternity.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. CARPENTER.

For the Committee.

ANNUAL RETURNS

OF

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

FOR THE YEAR 1874.

—:—

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

Original Charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York, May 4th, A.D. 1816,
A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th,
A. D. 1844.

—:—

OFFICERS FOR 1874.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sir Berry Russell,.....E. C. | Sir F. W. Delesdernier, Treasurer. |
| " Sam'l Alston .....G. | " M. A. Calongne.....Recorder |
| " George Soule .....C. G. | " H. C. Bruns.....Stan. Bearer. |
| " J. C. Carpenter .....Prelate. | " A. J. Armstrong, Sword Bearer. |
| " H. W. Graham ... Sen. Warden. | " J. Olle Warden. |
| " W. F. Cleveland, Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire Sent. |

Guards—J. H. Harvey, F. Casson, A. L. Abbott.

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| T. A. Bartlette, P. G. G., | M. A. Calongne, P. G. C. G., |
| Hugh Breen, P. D. G. C., | James Stafford, |
| John G. Fleming, P. G. C. G., | F. W. Delesdernier, |
| | I. W. Homan. |
| | John A. Peel, P. D. G. C. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Allabaugh, J. R. | Carter, J. H. | Cummings, A. N. | Eyle, Fred. |
| Annan, A. | Cox, William | Coyle, W. G. | Furneaux, Jas. |
| Barnes, J. S. | Cage, D. S. | Chandler, J. B. | Gardiner, James |
| Barker, P. A. | Constantini, F. | Churchill, P. J. | Graham, David R. |
| Burden, Thomas | Clark, John | Crawford, J. D. | Gregg, Wm. |
| Barkdull, E. J. | Cain, L. P. | Custer, A. B. | Gill, T. M. |
| Baker, John | Cassidy, Henry | Donella, O. J. | Greenwood, P. P. |
| Bell, Edward | Czarnowski, Oscar | Daussat, J. L. | Heron, A. C. |
| Brown, H. C. | Carraher, F. M. | Duncan, H. C. | Herwig, J. L. |
| Brand, E. | Carey, G. W. | Depas, A. H. | Haggart, S. B. |
| Barry, David | Campbell, A. | Depas, D. A. | Herwig, P. F. |
| Babington, Robt. | Christian, P. J. | Delmas, A. H. | Hart, L. |
| Bouligny, Edmond | Cottle, W. P. | Dorand, J. H. | Hinton, Isaac T. |

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Hall, S. R. | Kilpatrick, W. H. | Patton, Anthony | Tillberg, L. W. |
| Hall, G. L. | Kouns, John | Redon, O. M. | Thorn, John |
| Hansell, W. S. | Lafon, René | Riverra, P. Nap. | Tullis, W. B. |
| Hardin, J. L. | McDuff, Wm. | Rickey, R. S. | Wadsworth, G. M. |
| Hamilton, Geo. C. | Mullan, H. J. | Sheen, Dennis | Watkins, Fearn |
| Ivens, E. M. | Martin, Angel | Starr, William | Wallace, James |
| Isaacson, A. H. | Maxwell, Robt. | Skardon, A. W. | Werlein, Philip |
| Jones, F. A. | Morphy, W. J. | Sterling, R. G. | Wolverton, N. W. |
| Johnson, George | Ochiglevich, J. | Stanton, W. C. | White, Jona C. |
| Kells, Chas. E. | O'Dowd, J. | Sweeney, James | Young, John, Jr. |
| Kuapp, F. H. | Otto, Fred. | Stewart, David | Zeigier, Joseph |
| Keenan, Pat. | Panzer, S. H. | Sheehan, Thomas | |
| Kellett, John | Pinckard, G. J. | Thomas, Charles | Total—126 |

Knighted—Philip J. Greenwood, Edward Bell, George W. Carey, John Kouns, William S. Hansell, Erick Brand, Philip Werlein, Rufus Spaulding Rickey, James Gardiner, George M. Wadsworth, Francis E. Foucher, Anthony Patton, Andrew Jackson Armstrong, Henry W. Graham, Dennis Sheen, James Wallace, F. M. Carraher, William H. Kilpatrick, David Barry, Lorenz W. Tillberg, Jesse S. Hardin, Albert Newhall Cummings, Albert Little Abbott, Paul J. Christian, Robert Babington, T. M. Gill, George C. Hamilton, William Gregg, A. H. Delmas, W. J. Morphy, A. H. Depas, John Thorn, Theodore Casson, Robert Maxwell, William B. Tullis, D. A. Depas, Edmond Bouligny, W. P. Cottle, Frederick Lyle.

Re-instated.—A. Campbell.

Demitted.—W. M. Ewell, J. A. G. Fisher, F. E. Foucher, I. C. Stafford.

Died.—A. Hillman, J. K. Scott.

Stricken from the Roll.—A. W. Benedict, Oliver Ellsworth, A. C. Garrett, H. M. O'Meallie, Felix Rice, P. Williams, H. Buchannan.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 25th, A. D. 1851,

A. O. 733.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

OFFICERS FOR 1875.

| | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Sir Harvey Cree..... | E. C. | Sir Samuel M. Todd..... | Treasurer. |
| " D. C. Johnston | G. | " Gustavus Sontag..... | Recorder. |
| " Robert Strong..... | C. G. | " John H. Scott..... | Stan. Bearer. |
| " T. F. Patton..... | Prelate. | " Hugh Pierson... | Sword Bearer. |
| " O. F. Peck..... | Sen. Warden. | " John M. Murch..... | Warder. |
| " Geo. H. Braughn..... | Jun. Warden. | " E. B. O'Sullivan..... | Sent. |
| M. A. Peck, R. K. Callender, A. W. Hyatt.....Guards. | | | |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| W. W. Johnson. | John B. Robertson, | James B. Scot, P. D. G. C. |
| Samuel M. Todd, P. G. C. | J. A. Stevenson, P. G. C. | Jos. H. DeGrange, G. C. |
| | R. L. Bruce, P. G. G. | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Adams, E. C. | Dunn, James B. | McConneghy, W. | Sheppers, Alfred |
| Addison, Ashford | Egerton, Thos. | McGuffy, H. | Schwartz, Henry |
| Austin, R. S. | Eyrich, A. | McNeil, Alex. | Small, A. B. |
| Batchelor, Jas. C. | Eyrich, Robt. G. | McPeake, T. B. | Smith, A. |
| Baxter, Eug. | Fasnacht, Robt. | McWilliams, J. G. | Smith, John C. |
| Bell, Wm. Robt. | Fellowes, E. T. | Mitchell, D. F. | Sarapurn, L. |
| Bennet, Philip | FitzGerald, W. E. | Mitchell, Jas. R. | Springer, G. J. |
| Berry, Sam'l. A. | Francis, M. W. | Montgomery, B. J. | Stocker, Chas. H. |
| Blessey, E. | Fuller, Charles A. | Muncy, M. B. | Stroud, Geo. |
| Bohne, Geo. C. | Garner, George G. | Murdock, L. T. | Sutton, Chas. S. |
| Boning, Geo. | Gernon, Owen | Murray, Thos. Jr. | Thayer, F. N. |
| Bonnabel, Hy. | Glennon, Robert | Nagle, Israel E. | Timbrell, G. H. W. |
| Brode, F. A. | Hamburger, H. | Newton, C. W. | Todd, James |
| Buchholtz, A. P. | Hasam, Thomas | Norris, J. W. | Trippett, R. S. |
| Buckley, H. P. | Hawkins, John | O'Beirne, W. J. | Turck, J. R. |
| Bullard, E. C. | Hedges, T. F. | Pearce, J. W. | Twitchell, M. H. |
| Burke, E. A. | Hill, O. L. | Peck, D. W. C. | VanHorn, T. D. |
| Campbell, Wm. | Holyland, F. | Pecot, Sully J. | Villasana, F. deP. |
| Carey, J. T. | Hotchkiss, C. W. | Perry, David P. | Walker, Chas. |
| Carnahan, H. S. | Hughes, David | Pickert, J. A. | Wang, Fred. |
| Carroll, T. | Ittmann, G. B. | Pike, Wm. S. | Whitemore, C. E. |
| Carter, Albert G. | Jones, John W. | Pike, Z. M. | Williams, H. |
| Carter, Howell | Kent, Amos | Ruce, George W. | Wilson, F. H. |
| Chaffe, Charles | Lane, Lafayette N. | Ramelli, D. S. | Wilson, J. H. |
| Chase, C. H. | Lee, John J. | Richardson, J. G. | Wilson, James |
| Collins, G. W. | Lisso, Julius | Robson, William | York, E. A. |
| Collins, J. K. | Low, James | Rowand, Frank P. | Young, H. C. |
| Craig, Emmet D. | Ludwigen, J. H. | Schilling, H. T. | Young, J. T. |
| Cutler, Alex. S. | Lunn, Thomas | Schmidt, Chas. | Young, R. T. |
| Darden, R. G. | Lusse, Caspar | Selby, Geo. | |
| Douglass, John P. | Macon, Thos. L. | Selph, C. McR. | |
| Dunbar, Geo. H. | Manning, W. H. | Sheldon, A. D. | |

Total 147

Knighted--Emmet Case Adams, George Horace Braughn, Samuel Adams Berry, Edwin Converse Bullard, George Charles Bohne, Robert Kerr Callender, William Campbell, Alexander Smith Cutler, Charles Chaffe, John Post Douglass, Thomas Egerton, Robert Gustave Eyrich, Robert Fasnacht, William Wallace Flood, Owen Gernon, Arthur William Hyatt, Charles Willis Hotchkiss, Outen Laws Hill, Milton Buffington Muncy, John Maunder Murch, Thomas B. McPeak, Thomas Murray, Jr., James Reid Mitchell, Israel Fmaus Nagle, Eugene B. O'Sullivan, Osian Franklin Peck, Sully Joseph Pecot, David Parmly Perry, Charles Henry Stocker, John Hamilton Scott, Alfred Sheppers, Adolphe Smith, Charles Smith Sutton, Henry Schwartz, Marshall H. Twitchell, Charles Walker, Charles Edward Whitemore, Robert Thomas Young, Henry Clay Young.

Demitted--W. W. Flood,

Died--P. C. Mandal, J. C. Wilner, George Bull, S. H. Brown, J. D. Clarke, W. M. Perkins, J. Santini.

Stricken from the roll--A. S. Foote, Wm. Weber, J. W. Wrede, L. J. Webster.

Erroneously reported as a member last year--Charles E. Wynne.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, September 4th, A. D. 1862.
A. O. 744.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

OFFICERS FOR 1874.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Sir John W. Madden | E. C. | Sir E. G. Mehnert | Treasurer. |
| " Andrew Hero, Jr | G. | " Thomas Cripps | Recorder. |
| " E. Baker | C. G. | " Wm. M. Todd | Stan. Bearer. |
| " John H. Clarke | Prelate. | " James E. Ayre | Sword Bearer. |
| " Louis Power | Sen. Warden. | " J. B. Cooper | Warder. |
| " T. J. Rogers | Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire (not a m'b'r). | Sent. |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| J. Q. A. Fellows, P. G. C. & G. M. G. E. U. S. | John H. Clarke, P. G. C. G. |
| Joseph P. Hornor, P. G. C. | Thomas Cripps. |
| Wm. R. Whitaker, P. D. G. C. | Geo. Baldey. |
| W. L. Stanford, P. G. C. G. | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Adams, E. E. | Estlin, Chas. T. | Montgomery, D. | Rivers, R. E. |
| Allen, C. H. | Eaton T. W. | Moon, W. H. | Shaw, Alfred |
| Badger, A. S. | Fuselier, Ferjus | Miller, Nick. | Sizer, Geo. W. |
| Benedict, W. T. | Frank, W. | McGinnis, J. J. | Scott, Chas. A. |
| Boffinger, W. H. | Gardner, L. H. | Morrison, D. C. | Stockdale, S. A. |
| Barrett, A. J. | Gilman, S. H. | Myers, F. E. | Staples, Geo. |
| Babcock, A. C. | Gray, Jacob | Monroe, S. F. | Sypher, A. J. |
| Borges, J. M. | Good, Fred. | More, Thos. T. | Sabourin, E. |
| Barringer, H. V. | Hays, H. T. | Mudge, Carson | Shook, E. A. |
| Bemiss, S. M. | Hughes, A. de B. | Merritt, C. H. | Trimble, J. E. |
| Baldwin, Albert | Harris, J. L. | Mehaffey, J. H. | Tisdale, E. |
| Baxter, J. B. D. | Hunt, C. S. | McMains, John | Turner, W. R. B. |
| Benedict, W. S. | Huff, F. | Nash, Chas. T. | Tanner, J. J. |
| Burk, R. S. | Henry, Thos. Jr. | O'Connor, Thos. | Watson, Robert |
| Bovard, Rob't D. | Heath, E. | Parsons, J. P. | Walsh, P. P. |
| Burbank, N. | Holland, W. H. | Porter, C. S. D. | Wright, S. B. |
| Campbell, Benj. | Johnson, W. A. | Potter, Jothan | Wilcox, N. A. |
| Currey, E. S. | James, W. G. | Rice, Chas. S. | Wilcox, G. C. |
| Collins, J. P. | Keys, Nelson | Reid, Edward | Walker, Jos. A. |
| Comb., C. W. | Leacock, W. T. | Robinson, Wm. M. | Walker, Joseph |
| Campbell, Robt. | Lawrence, B. R. | Remick, F. C. | Wright, Jas. S. |
| Doane, Harmon | Lusse, Henry | Richards, John L. | Wilkins, A. H. |
| Davisson, C. W. | Leitz, Ambrose | Rothwell, J. H. | Yalets, G. |
| Dunlap, J. C. | Murphy, Wm. E. | Reynolds, W. H. | Total—110. |

Knighted.—Columbus Hayne Allen, Carson Mudge, Algernon Sidney Badger, George W. Combs, William Robert Bowling Turner, Philip Dumestre, John P. Collins, William Frank, Thomas O'Connor, William T. Benedict, John James Turner, William H. Boffinger, G. C. Wilcox, Louis Power, A. C. Babcock, Andrew Jackson Barrett, Ferjus Fuselier, William Maynard Todd, T. W. Eaton, Charles H. Merritt, James Howarth Rothwell, Ambrose Leitz, William H. Reynolds, G. Yalets, Frederick Good, Joseph Alphonse Walker, Joseph Walker, Jerome Maria Borges, James Scoulder Wright, Thomas Henry, Jr., Robert Campbell, Robert Eldridge Rivers, Edward Heath, John McMains, James Edgar Ayer, James Harris Mehaffey, Ernest Sabourin, Augustin H. Wilkins, William Henry Holland.

Affiliated—Thomas Trenchard More, Henry V. Barringer, S. M. Bemiss.

Demitted—George A. Blake, George Chamberlain.

Died.—W. C. Driver, P. E. C., W. P. Stewart.

Stricken from the Roll.—G. H. Abbot, Cuthbert Bullitt, Alfred E. Billings, Levi S. Crawford, R. W. W. Carroll, J. J. Cosby, Wm. Cooper, Thos. Friend, D. M. Hildreth, Mason Pilcher, Andrew Parle, N. T. N. Robinson, E. M. Rusha, Samuel J. Seymour, H. L. Slaight, H. T. Twitchell, M. Woods, E. P. Andrews.

Expelled.—Ph. Dumestre, (by Alpha Home Lodge No. 72.)

GIRARD COMMANDERY No. 4.

Opelousas, St. Landry Parish.

OFFICERS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sir Michel Eloï Girard.....E. C. | Sir J. W. Jackson Treasurer. |
| " Claudius Mayo.....G. | " Joseph D. Richard.....Recorder. |
| " Jonathan Levi Morris .....C. G. | " Geo. O. Elms Stan. Bearer. |
| " James Ray .....Prelate. | " R. Dugat.....Sword Bearer. |
| " George Pulford ...Sen. Warden. | " W. A. Robertson.....Warler. |
| " M. G. May .....Jun. Warden. | " Louis Lejeune..... Sentinel. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Breaux, Jos. A. | Gantt, Elbert | Lewis, Edw. T. | Pitre, F. L. |
| Crawford, Wm. | Gordy, John C. | Mudd, Francis S. | |
| Chenier, Jos. | Hundley, F. J. | | Total—21. |

Knighted.—Joseph Arsene Breaux.

List of Elective Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

| R. E. G. COMMANDER. | V. E. D. G. COMMANDER. | E. G. GENERALISSIMO. | E. GRAND CAPT. GENERAL | E. C. PRELATE. | E. GRAND TREASURER. | K. GRAND RECORDER. |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1864 Hy Rutus Swasey* J. Q. A. Fellows. | Fulgence Ricau* J. Q. A. Fellows. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Willis P. Coleman* Willis P. Coleman. | John H. Holland* H. R. Swasey. | Hosca Edwards* Emanuel Blessey. | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1865 J. Q. A. Fellows. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Willis P. Coleman. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | Joseph P. Hornor. |
| 1866 Sam'l M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | M. A. Calongue. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |
| 1867 Sam'l M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |
| 1868 Fulgence Ricau*. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | A. E. Billings. |
| 1869 Joseph P. Hornor. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |
| 1870 Joseph P. Hornor. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |
| 1871 Jno. A. Stevens. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |
| 1872 Richard L. mbert. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |
| 1873 J. H. DeGrange. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |
| 1874 Joseph P. Hornor. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |
| 1875 J. H. DeGrange. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Fulgence Ricau* S. M. Todd. | Wm. R. Whitaker. | H. R. Swasey. | Emanuel Blessey. | G. Sontag. |

*Lead.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF COMMANDERIES UNDER THIS JURISDICTION

| NAME OF COMMANDERIES. | Number. | WHERE LOCATED. | E. COMMANDER. | RECORDER. | Number of Members. | (Orders conferred. | Admitted. | Itemitted. | Died. | Suspended. | Expelled. | Struck from Roll. | Reinstated. |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------|-------|------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|
| Indivisible Friends..... | 1 | New Orleans..... | Berry Russell..... | A. A. Calongue... | 126 | 41 | 5 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | 7 | 1 |
| Jacques de Molay..... | 2 | " "..... | Harvey Cree..... | G. Sontag..... | 147 | 40 | 1 | 7 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 4 | ..... |
| Orleans..... | 3 | " "..... | John W. Madden.. | T. Cripps..... | 110 | 39 | 2 | 2 | 2 | ..... | 1 | 18 | ..... |
| Girard..... | 4 | Opelousas..... | M. F. Girard..... | Joseph D. Richard | 21 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 404 | 121 | 3 | 8 | 11 | ..... | 1 | 29 | 1 |

REGISTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

| STATE. | DATE OF ORGANIZATION | GRAND COMMANDER. | RESIDENCE. | GRAND RECORDER. | RESIDENCE. |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Alabama | 1 December, | Walter L. Bragg | Montgomery | Daniel Sayre | Montgomery |
| Arkansas | 25 March | Luke E. Barber | Little Rock | John W. Ryson | Little Rock |
| California | 10 August | William A. Davies | Stockton | Charles L. Wiggins | San Francisco |
| Connecticut | 13 September | Nathan Dikeman | Waterbury | John W. Steidman | Norwich |
| Georgia | 18 April | Samuel P. Hamilton | Savannah | Charles R. Armstrong | Macon |
| Illinois | 27 October | Hiram W. Hubbard | Centralia | James H. Miles | Chicago |
| Indiana | 16 May | A. H. Hamilton | Fort Wayne | John M. Bramwell | Indianapolis |
| Iowa | 6 June | Edward A. Guilbert | Dubuque | Wm. B. Langridge | Muscatine |
| Kansas | 29 December | Thomas J. Anderson | Topeka | Erasmus T. Carr | Leavenworth |
| Kentucky | 5 October | James A. Bentie | Louisville | L. D. Croninger | Covington |
| Louisiana | 12 February | Joseph H. DeGrange | New Orleans | Gustavus Sontag | New Orleans |
| Maine | 5 May | John W. Ballou | Bath | Ira Berry | Portland |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island | 12 May | Chas. A. Stott | Lowell, Mass. | Alfred F. Chapman | Boston, Mass. |
| Maryland | 23 January | Edward F. Schultz | Baltimore | Frank J. Kugler | Baltimore |
| Michigan | 15 January | L. H. Randall | Grand Rapids | William P. Innes | Grand Rapids |
| Minnesota | 23 October | Benton H. Langley | Winona | E. D. B. Porter | St. Paul |
| Mississippi | 22 January | P. M. Savery | Baldwyn | J. L. Power | Jackson |
| Missouri | 22 May | S. A. Gilbert | Weston | Geo. Frank Goulay | St. Louis |
| New Hampshire | 12 June | Joseph W. Fellows | Manchester | John A. Harris | Concord |
| New Jersey | 14 February | David S. Batley | Newark | Thomas J. Conson | Trenton |
| New York | 28 June | Eugene Lytle | Auburn | Robert Macoy | New York |
| Nebraska | 18 December | Enoch T. Carson | Lincoln | William R. Bowen | Omaha |
| Ohio | 24 October | Rolland H. Oakley | Cincinnati | James Nesbit | Troy |
| Pennsylvania | 14 April | John H. Dusenbury | Great Bend | Charles E. Meyer | Philadelphia |
| Tennessee | 12 October | Morton B. Howell | Nashville | John Frizzell | Nashville |
| Texas | 19 January | B. B. Richardson | Galveston | Robert Brewster | Houston |
| Vermont | 17 June | Joseph L. Perkins | St. Johnsbury | J. M. Poland | Montpelier |
| Virginia | 27 November | Wm. B. Isaacs | Richmond | John Dove | Richmond |
| Wisconsin | 29 October | Chas. P. Whitford | Beloit | John W. Woodhull | Berlin |
| West Virginia | 24 February | O. S. Long | Wheeling | M. A. Chandler | Wheeling |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, near other Grand Commanderies.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alabama | Sir John H. Higley. |
| Arkansas | Sir E. H. English. |
| California | Sir Isaac S. Titus. |
| Connecticut | Sr Daniel Calkins. |
| Georgia | Sir Robert L. Roddy. |
| Illinois | Sir Harmon G. Reynolds. |
| Indiana | Sir E. D. Palmer. |
| Iowa | Sir Edward A. Guilbert. |
| Kentucky | Sir Charles R. Woodruff. |
| Kansas | Sir John M. Price. |
| Maine | Sir Josiah H. Drummond. |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island | Sir William W. Baker. |
| Missouri | Sir George Frank Gouley. |
| Mississippi | Sir E. George DeLap. |
| Minnesota | Sir E. F. Dodge. |
| Michigan | Sir E. I. Garfield. |
| Maryland | Sir E. F. Schultz. |
| New York | Sir Ezra S. Barnum. |
| New Jersey | Sir Thomas J. Corson. |
| Nebraska | Sir Charles W. Seymour. |
| New Hampshire | Sir Joseph W. Fellows. |
| Ohio | Sir Enoch T. Carson. |
| Pennsylvania | Sir James H. Hopkins. |
| Tennessee | Sir A. D. Sears. |
| Texas | Sir L. M. Oppenheimer. |
| Vermont | Sir Jos. L. Perkins. |
| Wisconsin | Sir Henry L. Palmer. |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Of other Grand Commanderies, near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Alabama | Sir James C. Batchelor. |
| California | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Connecticut | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Georgia | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Illinois | Sir Gustavus Sontag. |
| Indiana | Sir Richard Lambert. |
| Kentucky | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Kansas | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Maine | Sir James B. Scot. |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Missouri | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Mississippi | Sir Joseph H. DeGrange. |
| Minnesota | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Maryland | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| New York | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| New Jersey | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Nebraska | Sir _____ |
| Pennsylvania | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Tennessee | Sir James C. Batchelor. |
| Texas | Sir Richard Lambert. |
| Vermont | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Wisconsin | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW ORLEANS, February 1st, 1875.

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana :

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence present a brief review of the transactions of the following Grand Commanderies :

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| ALABAMA | 1874 | MISSISSIPPI | 1874 |
| CANADA | 1873 | MISSOURI | 1874 |
| CONNECTICUT | 1874 | NEBRASKA | 1873 |
| GEORGIA | 1874 | NEW JERSEY | 1874 |
| ILLINOIS | 1873 | NEW HAMPSHIRE | 1873 |
| INDIANA | 1874 | NEW YORK | 1874 |
| IOWA | 1874 | OHIO | 1874 |
| KANSAS | 1874 | PENNSYLVANIA | 1874 |
| KENTUCKY | 1874 | TENNESSEE | 1874 |
| MAINE | 1874 | TEXAS | 1874 |
| MASSACHUSETTS and R. I. | 1874 | VERMONT | 1874 |
| MARYLAND | 1874 | VIRGINIA | 1873, 1874 |
| MICHIGAN | 1874 | WISCONSIN | 1874 |
| MINNESOTA | 1873, 1874 | | |

ALABAMA.

Fourteenth Annual Conclave at Montgomery, May 6. 1874; Walter L. Bragg, Grand Commander; 6 Commanderies represented out of 8; session, two days. The Grand Commander announced the death of Past Grand Commander Richard F. Knott, who died November 22d, 1873. He had been Grand Commander eight years, and his decease was a serious loss to Templar Knighthood.

The Grand Commander acknowledged the receipt of the invitations of this Grand Commandery to the Order in Alabama to visit New Orleans during the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, and to take part in the Encampment at Biloxi of last August.

The Grand Commander objects to the public devotional exercises of our Order, although they have been performed annually for a considerable period in Alabama. He reports having addressed Grand Master Fellows upon the subject, and that the Grand Master replied concurring in his opinion.

The Grand Commander decided that "suspension for non-payment of dues in the Lodge or Chapter, while it exists, destroys all Masonic standing in the Commandery;" and that "the unveiling of a monument to the Confederate

dead was not an occasion at which it was proper for a Commandery of Knights Templar, as such to form part of a public procession, not of a Masonic character."

The Correspondence Report is from the pen of Sir Daniel Sayre. He says of our predecessor's strictures upon the Alabama Jurisprudence Committee's decision on suspension for non-payment of dues:

Sir Knight Hornor should consider that every suspension for non-payment of dues, is supposed to be regular unless the contrary appears. The Grand Commandery has no right to go behind the record. The conclusion, therefore, of the committee, *just as it stands*, was either right or wrong; and no conditions can be added to it, to judge of its correctness.

He also differs from the same Louisiana frater as to his opinion, that a Knight Templar ought not only to be a Christian but a Trinitarian, and says that, "As a matter of fact we suppose that such is almost universally the case, but such is certainly not one of the pre-requisites."

We agree with the Alabama reviewer.

The report is an excellent one. We wish we had space to review it thoroughly.

Walter L. Bragg, Montgomery, (re-elected) Grand Commander; Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, (re-elected) Grand Recorder.

CANADA.

Annual Assembly of Grand Priory at Kingston, August 14, 1878; W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Grand Prior; session, 2 days; 12 out of 16 Preceptories represented.

The Address of the Grand Prior received notice last year in the report of the Louisiana Correspondence Committee.

The documents submitted with the address of the Grand Prior are of unusual interest and value, but our limits will not permit their transfer to these pages. They convey, within a small compass, important information respecting Templar Knighthood in Great Britain and Canada, its organization, nomenclature, costume and principles, while the address is an instructive historical essay. Measures had been taken to obtain from the Convent General of the Empire, authority for the establishment of a Great Priory for the Dominion of Canada, to include the jurisdictions of the Provincial Grand Conclaves of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Grand Prior; Thomas B. Harris, Grand Chancellor.

CONNECTICUT.

Annual Conclave at Norwich, March 17th, 1874: Daniel Calkins, Grand Commander; 10 Commanderies—all—represented; session, one day. The Grand Commander was not disposed to recommend that Knights should not be permitted to sit in the Grand Commandery unless clothed in the regulation uniform. He thought such a course would be unmasonic and uncharitable. He took strong ground against Grand Master Fellows's celebrated order No. 3, rehearsing the usual arguments urged against it, by its opponents, at considerable length. Considering the action taken at the late session of the Grand

Encampment on the uniform question, and in view of the fact, that discussion upon the subject has already been carried to great length, and has developed no little heat, and some unknighly acrimony, we are not now disposed to reply to our frater's positions. We do not concede to him, however, any advantage of position.

He thinks expulsion from the Lodge should not exclude a member from the Commandery. Would he hold Masonic intercourse with a Mason under sentence of expulsion; or does he think that the intercourse of Knights Templar in their Asylums is Masonic?

The correspondence report was prepared by Sir John W. Stedman, Grand Recorder. It is too brief for its quality, and only suffices to show what our genial frater could do if he had a chance.

Nathan Dikeman, Waterbury, Grand Commander; John W. Stedman, Norwich, Grand Recorder.

GEORGIA.

Thirteenth Annual Conclave, at Savannah, May 18th, 1874; Sir William Henry Tuller, Grand Commander; 8 Commanderies—all—represented; session two days.

The Grand Commander's very brief address is confined to local topics.

The public liturgy of the Order was performed and "a learned, elaborate and poetic," address was pronounced by Sir J. Emmett Blackshear on the 14th, at the Savannah Baptist Church.

On Wednesday evening, the Grand Commandery banqueted in the Masonic Temple, and on Thursday afternoon, they put out to sea, for an afternoon's excursion. Little other business appears to have been transacted at this Annual Conclave.

The address of Sir J. E. Blackshear is appended to the Proceedings, and would receive due notice if space permitted.

No correspondence report.

Sir Samuel Pugh Hamilton, Savannah, Grand Commander; Sir Charles R. Armstrong, Macon, Grand Recorder.

ILLINOIS.

Seventeenth Annual Conclave at Chicago, October 28, 1873; Sir Samuel Dustin, Grand Commander; 40 Commanderies represented; session, 2 days.

The Grand Commander announced the death of Past Grand Commander Sir Nathan F. Prentice, who died April 20, 1873. He regrets the action of the Grand Commandery of Maine concerning the question of costume.

The Jurisprudence Committee approved the following decision of the Grand Commander, and the Grand Commandery adopted their report:

"A suspended or expelled Master Mason or Companion, who is a Knight Templar, loses his position in his Commandery, and has no Masonic standing whatever."

The same fate befel the following very sensible decisions:

"A Commandery loses none of its rights and privileges simply by the accidental destruction of its Charter."

"Suicide does not necessarily imply *unworthiness*; and therefore, when committed by a Knight Templar, may not be a bar to Knightly burial."

The Grand Commandery decreed full uniform a necessity on the part of all representatives at its future conclaves.

The correspondence review was again submitted by Sir James H. Miles. It is discriminating and courteous.

Under the head of Alabama, he remarks, that he does not see how suspension in Lodge or Chapter should not work suspension in the Commandery, "if the non-payment of dues be considered an unmasonic act, and the penalty therefor be suspension."

Under the head of Ohio, discussing its Grand Commander's decision on the point, he observes:

"If there is no law against non-affiliated R. A. Masons receiving the orders, there should be one. How could a non-affiliated R. A. Mason sign a petition for the orders?"

"A complete Templar Ritual for constituting Commanderies and consecrating Asylums, with Revised Installation Services and Charges, with appropriate Music," prepared by Sir C. H. Brower, Grand Senior Warden, is appended to the Proceedings.

Sir James Andrew Hawley, Dixon, Grand Commander; Sir James Hoge Miles, Chicago, (re-elected) Grand Recorder.

INDIANA.

Twentieth Annual Conclave, at Indianapolis, April 28, 1874; Sir Edwin D. Palmer, Grand Commander; 23 Commanderies—all—represented; session, 2 days.

Concerning the Maine resolutions of 1873, relative to Order No. 3, the Grand Commander observes:

"Our jurisdiction has cheerfully conformed to the edict. Though many individual Sir Knights were possessed of what is known as the 'black costume,' yet they laid them aside and procured the regulation costume as prescribed by the Grand Encampment. For one jurisdiction to present their grievances in such a petition, and carry it through by a mere majority of votes, where such small majority comprises but a small portion of one jurisdiction, and by such acts puts at defiance the Grand Encampment of the United States, brings every other sister jurisdiction to her feet to defend her own, as well as those of the rights of the Grand Body, whose representatives we all are. No other course is left for this Grand Body but to endorse, and to acknowledge full allegiance to the Grand Encampment, and so instruct our representatives that our verdict shall be in full harmony with the parent body."

The Grand Commander had decided that he could not fill the office of Eminent Commander while holding the principal station in the Grand Commandery, "inasmuch as it might become necessary to enforce the Statutes of the Grand Commandery upon his own Commandery." * We fail to see the incompatibility. No disobedience of orders would be likely to result from the fact that one Knight held the two positions; and instances might occur where the well-being of the subordinate body would be seriously interfered with by carrying out the decision.

The representatives of Indiana to the Grand Encampment were directed to support the "regulation" costume in all its essentials.

Sir William W. Austin submitted the Report on Correspondence, occupying 126 of a beautifully printed and bound volume of 240 pages, comprising the Indiana Proceedings. In the space allotted us, we cannot properly review so thorough a report. It is just what a report on correspondence ought to be, presenting fully, and commenting freely and judiciously upon the public acts of Templars throughout the various jurisdictions.

His notice of Louisiana is mainly devoted to the able review "of Sir Joseph P. Hornor," from whose report he quotes immensely.

Sir Andrew H. Hamilton, Fort Wayne, Grand Commander; Sir John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis, Grand Recorder.

IOWA.

Annual Conclave at Dubuque, October 22d, 1874; Sir Buren R. Sherman, Grand Commander; 22, out of 24, Commanderies represented; session, two days.

We were in some doubt as to the number of this Annual Conclave, but all our perplexities have been removed by the following lucid explanation by Sir Knight Corson. We find it in his report under the head of Iowa:

It is a mystery to us what can be the matter with our good fraters who have pitched their tents in the far Western wilds where still roams

"The poor Indian, whose untutored mind
Takes whiskey straight, and goes it till he's blind."

Whether the valiant knights of the fair land, where the grasshopper is now a burden, hadn't put enough "sugar in theirs;" whether the inimitable Grand Recorder had

"Eaten of the insane root
That takes the reason prisoner;"

Whether because the "crusaders" have not yet visited that benighted region, or whether from some hidden cause which defies human ken, we know not; but, while the cause thereof is unknown to us, the fact is painfully evident that they have got things very generally mixed up. The first page of the beautiful volume before us announces that it contains the proceedings of the "*tenth* Grand Annual Conclave" of this Grand Commandery; the title-page declares that it was the *ninth* Annual Conclave; the first page of the minutes proclaims that it was the *tenth*; the Grand Commander, in his address, welcomes his fellow Sir Knights to the "*ninth* Grand Annual Conclave;" while it is announced on the last page of the cover, that the next Conclave will be the *eleventh*, thus admitting that this was the *tenth*. There you are—"now you see it, and now you don't see it"—and it's safe to bet five, ten or twenty that you can't tell what Conclave it was; but we can, because, in order to straighten up this muddle, we went to the source where true and reliable Masonic information can always be obtained, (which, not to put too fine a point upon it, was the "Proceedings of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey,") when we learned that the Grand Commandery of Iowa held her *eighth* Conclave in 1872, and consequently the proceedings contained in this volume are those of the *ninth* Conclave, which was held in October, 1873, at which time every Grand Officer was at his post, and twenty of the twenty-three subordinates were represented.

On the subject of uniform the Grand Commander says:

"I believe the general good requires that as in ritual and drill, so in dress, there should be thorough uniformity; and I see no good reason, why in reasonable time every member of the order should not be required to conform to the regulations upon that subject."

The Committee on the Grand Commander's address, Sir T. S. Parvin, Chairman, say on this subject :

In reference to the resolution of the Grand Commandery of Maine upon the subject of costume, and the Order No. 8 of the Grand Master of Templars of the U. S., submitted to this Grand Commandery by the Grand Commander at their request—the Committee have only to say that in their judgment they are, in sentiment, disloyal to the Grand Encampment, and discourteous to its recognized Chief, and this Grand Commandery has too much self-respect, and too high a regard for the good and public welfare of the order, to join in any such unholy crusade.

A regulation was adopted that each candidate for the orders shall deposit twenty-five dollars, in addition to the regular fee, said sum to be returned to him if he shall, within ninety days, provide himself with fatigue uniform ; otherwise, the sum to go the Commandery treasury.

Sir J. T. Lane, Grand Orator, was compelled to "communicate" his oration in manuscript.

The Correspondence Report was prepared by Sir E. A. Guilbert. It is characteristic, and 54 pages long.

His pen is decidedly free, and his style—*sui generis*.

The Maine resolutions have his sympathy, and as a consequence, those who have viewed them with disfavor, are subjected to his animadversions.

He remarks of Grand Commander DeGrange and the "Maine costume resolutions" as follows :

"Of course he does not approve them. He lived too near the Throne for free speech to enrol him among her votaries. He does not see the principle involved, and indulges in some platitudes about the necessity of harmony under one common banner, and so dismisses the mixed question. It is the old, old illustration of the adage—

"Orthodoxy is *my* doxy,
Heterodoxy is every other man's doxy."

Barring the want of courtesy in the observations of our distinguished Iowa frater, in the remarks quoted, he by no means does justice to the outspoken language of Grand Commander DeGrange, concerning the subject referred to. The "principle involved," was clearly noticed by him, and duly urged in fraternal terms upon our Maine fratres.

Sir Edward A. Guilbert, Dabaque, Grand Commander ; Sir William B. Langridge, Muscatine, Grand Recorder.

KANSAS.

Sixth Annual Conclave, at Lawrence, May 13th, 1874 ; Sir John M. Price, Grand Commander ; 5 Commanderies—all—represented ; session, one day.

The Grand Commander notices the death of Sir H. R. Swasey.

Concerning the uniform question, the Grand Commander says :

"We, in loyal Kansas, not only recognize our allegiance to the Grand Encampment of the United States, and to the edicts of the Most Eminent Grand Master, but we heartily approve the rule of 1862, and endorse the order enforcing its observance."

The Correspondence Report was presented by Sir William O. Gould.

Under the head of Iowa, Sir William gives us a most excellent, wholly unjust, peculiarly quizzical, and horribly amusing table of statistics. It is too long for insertion, but we cannot resist the temptation to copy it.

"We have been making an estimate of these (correspondence) reports, based upon the amounts paid by the different Grand Commanderies, and have ranked them as follows, making this allowance—where the Grand Recorder makes the report, and no division is made in the pay, we have allowed one third, as paid him for his report.

TABLE OF RANK AND VALUE OF REPORTS ON CORRESPONDENCE.

| <i>Name.</i> | <i>State.</i> | <i>Rank.</i> | <i>Pay.</i> |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Sir Simons..... | New York..... | Captain..... | \$200 00 |
| Sir Miles*..... | Illinois..... | 1st Lieutenant..... | 166 00 |
| Sir Corson..... | New Jersey..... | 2d Lieutenant..... | 100 00 |
| Sir Gouley*..... | Missouri..... | 3d Lieutenant..... | 100 00 |
| Sir Sayers*..... | Alabama..... | Orderly Sergeant..... | 66 00 |
| Sir Wiggins*..... | California..... | Sergeant..... | 50 00 |
| Sir Savary*..... | Mississippi..... | Sergeant..... | 50 00 |
| Sir Innes*..... | Michigan..... | Sergeant..... | 42 00 |
| Sir Porter*..... | Minnesota..... | Sergeant..... | 33 00 |
| Sir Guilbert..... | Iowa..... | Corporal..... | 25 00 |
| Sir Hornor..... | Louisiana..... | Corporal..... | 25 00 |
| Sir Drummond..... | Maine..... | Corporal..... | 25 00 |
| Sir Stewart..... | Vermont..... | Corporal..... | 25 00 |
| Sir Woodhull..... | Wisconsin..... | Corporal..... | 25 00 |
| Sir Hopkins..... | Pennsylvania..... | Private..... | } Great Expectations |
| Sir Scott..... | Virginia..... | Private..... | |
| Sir Blackey..... | Tennessee..... | Private..... | |
| Sir Fellows..... | New Hampshire..... | Private..... | |
| Sir Emmonds..... | Maryland..... | Private..... | |
| Sir Cruft..... | Indiana..... | Private..... | |
| Sir Cunningham..... | Ohio..... | Private..... | |
| Sir Gould..... | Kansas..... | Private..... | |

*Grand Recorders, and pay as reporters estimated."

Sir William innocently remarks :

"We respectfully refer this table to our friends, the Mutuals, so that hereafter they will be enabled to place a proper estimate upon these reports, without the trouble of poring over them to find out their merits; and we can recommend it as being strictly reliable."

Our respected frater does not like the "pomp and frivolity" attending the Triennial Conclaves. He believes it would be much better to confine these assemblies to the actual members of the Grand Encampment, with the Knights of local Commanderies to perform escort duty, etc. We agree.

His notice of Louisiana is very courteous. He pays his respects to Past Grand Master Fellows, and Past Grand Commander Hornor in true knightly manner, and "cordially endorses" the latter's criticism of the Maine circular on uniform.

He thinks Grand Commander Van Slyck, in his correspondence with Grand Master Fellows, concerning General Order, No. 3, exhibited great discourtesy to the Grand Master and the Grand Encampment, and believes that the Grand Commander of Massachusetts and Rhode Island would have summarily

disciplined one of his own subordinates for the use of similar language towards himself.

Sir William has given us a most excellent report—sparkling, pithy, and sensible, and deserves more notice than we have space for.

Sir Thomas J. Anderson, Topeka, Grand Commander; Sir Erasmus T. Carr, Leavenworth, Grand Recorder.

KENTUCKY.

Twenty-Seventh Annual Conclave at Cynthiana, July 9, 1874. Sir Henry Bostwick, Grand Commander; 13 Commanderies, out of 16, represented; session two days.

The Grand Commander announced the death of Grand Recorder William C. Munger, one of the most efficient officers of the Kentucky Grand Commandery; a member of the same since 1857; for 41 years in charge of its records, and widely and most favorably known as a Masonic Reviewer.

The Grand Commandery accepted a "prize banner" tendered by Sir Harry C. Warren, of Louisville Commandery No. 1, which is to be annually contended for by the various Commanderies of the State, in public competitive drill, at the Conclaves of the Grand Commandery; and to be held by the winner subject to the usual conditions relative to insignia of championship.

The correspondence report is from Sir C. R. Woodruff, and is full and excellently prepared. He agrees with Past Grand Commander Hornor's views on the question of affiliation, to-wit: that nothing in the law of the Order compels a Templar to forever maintain Lodge or Chapter membership. For our part we think that if there is no law requiring affiliation in Lodge and Chapter, as a requisite to good standing in the Commandery, there ought to be, or the Commanderies should cease to claim any Masonic connection.

He quotes largely, and compliments heartily Sir Joseph's report.

The report concludes with the following allusion to Sir Knight Munger.

"Sadly do we pen the few last lines of this report, when all of them were written with the memory of our beloved Sir Knight Munger constantly fresh upon us.

"Fourteen genial, instructive, and faithful annual reports on Foreign Correspondence he laid before you, and ere his fifteenth was commenced he received his last summons, and entered into rest.

"He was struck down, dying with his harness on, battling for the good of others."

Sir James A. Beattie, Louisville, Grand Commander; Sir L. D. Croninger, Covington, Grand Recorder.

MAINE.

Twenty-Third Annual Conclave at Portland, May 6, 1874; 11 Commanderies—all—represented; session, 1 day; Sir John W. Ballou, Grand Commander.

The Grand Commander announced the death of Sirs Freeman Bradford and John Horr Lynde; the former, Past Grand Commander, and the latter, Past Grand Generalissimo, of the Grand Commandery of Maine, and both Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of that State,

The Grand Commander's obituary remarks with reference to these Christian gentlemen and distinguished Masons, are appropriate and feeling. The Knights of the Temple in our sister jurisdiction have the fullest sympathy of their Louisiana fratres in their bereavement. The services of these departed worthies in the cause of our Order, and in the broader field of Freemasonry, have secured them a lasting and honorable record.

The following decision has our full commendation ; indeed we do not see even the weakest argument against it, though we are aware that a curious superstition prevails to the contrary in some quarters :

That the proceedings of a conclave, stated or otherwise, are not invalidated by the fact that the charter was absent by inadvertency or accident at the time of holding said conclave.

Sir Ira Berry presented the correspondence review. He apologizes needlessly, but very pleasantly, for the character of his report, and we quote a part of his apology.

A man can but do his best," said Hubert to Prince John, "but my grand-sire drew a good long-bow at Hastings, and I trust not to dishonor his memory." The writer has not the credit of ancestors to sustain—none of them, so far as he is aware, having been particularly skilled in "drawing the long-bow"; but, having had "greatness thrust upon him," he has been none the less the desirous to do his best; and you will accept that, meager and imperfect as it may be.

He does not discuss the uniform question much, while reviewing the proceedings, but hopes that it will be settled, and it has been, and Maine had no small share in the work of adjustment.

He refers to Sir Knight Hornor's observations relative to the Maine resolutions, and says: "we could ask nothing fairer or more courteous." We return thanks for our predecessor.

Under the head of Vermont, and with reference to certain earnest lectures on the subjects of drunkenness and profanity, he very sensibly observes;

We think it is partly, that in the anxiety of Brethern that masons should be *better* than other people, they urge the need of reformation in language calculated to give the impression that they are *worse*. We suppose no one would "take up the gauntlet" in *defense* of any vice. Doubtless these sins do prevail to some extent among members of our Fraternity, but we think not to a greater extent than among those of any other organization equally numerous. We agree with Sir Knight Sayre, of Alabama, who says:

"Are not these evils greatly magnified? We think they are. We do not suppose that in our jurisdiction of Alabama, Knights Templar are more virtuous, or more moral than they are generally elsewhere; and here we do not see that any of these vices prevail to any alarming extent. Our members seem to be about as moral, well-behaved, knightly gentlemen, as the same number of persons anywhere, in the best circles of society. (Or if they are immoral in any of the particulars mentioned, the fact has not come under our observation. But the constant dwelling upon these vices, and the denouncing them as the prevailing and peculiar vices of our Order, is calculated to make the outside world believe, that we are an exceedingly demoralized set of men; and that if they [the outside world] value their reputation, they had better have as little to do with us as possible."

The evil that is brought especially to one's notice is apt for the time, to assume undue proportions in his view, as the hand held near the eye will hide from sight a vast landscape.

As to profane language, there is no justification for it. Probably there are habits more wicked, there can scarcely be one more foolish. It is an easy one to form, if one is much among people addicted to it; and it is difficult to get rid of, because many, probably, are unconscious that they do use it.

Some years ago we read in a New York paper a letter from some place in the far West, which gave an anecdote of a wealthy man there, who having become hopefully converted, and finding it very hard to break himself of his habit of profane swearing, tried the experiment of imposing upon himself a fine for every oath, which might remind him of his sin, and the money do good, by being devoted to some pious purpose: and the narrator continued, "it is working very well; so far he has damned a new steeple on to the Church, and is now engaged in cursing up a contribution for a Ladies' Foreign Mission Society."

How would it answer to try this method? Probably, by the time a Masonic Temple had been built, an Orphan Asylum endowed, or a College founded, in any jurisdiction, the evil would be much abated; or at least the extent of its prevalence indicated. We think it as feasible as many other schemes for reformation of evils which we have known to be earnestly advocated, and we submit the suggestion without hope of fee or reward.

Under the caption "costume" he presents a carefully prepared argument of six pages, quoting law and authority extensively, and presenting his views and conclusions clearly, ably, and without any acerbity. It is a good defense of the views of his Grand Commandery, though very far, we think, from unanswerable.

Sir John W. Ballou, Bath, Grand Commander; Sir Ira Berry, Portland, Grand Recorder.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.

Special Assembly at Athol, Massachusetts, January 28d, 1874, to constitute "Athol" Commandery. An interesting historical address was delivered by the Grand Commander.

Semi-Annual Assembly at Providence, May, 27, 1874; Sir Charles A. Stott, Grand Commander; 27 Commanderies out of 37 represented; session, one day.

From the Grand Commander's address we make the following extract:

Sixty-nine years ago this very month, and within a stone's throw of the place where we are now assembled, this Grand Commandery was organized, by Sir Knights Webb, Fowle, and their associates. How different that assembly from the one we are to-day holding. Then it was composed of representatives from only three Commanderies; to-day we number thirty-nine, with a representation of two hundred and forty-two knights in Grand Commandery, and a membership of five thousand and seventy-six by the last report of our Grand Recorder, the largest number returned by any of our Grand Commanderies except New York.

We find that the growth of this Grand Body was slow but sure, for in the first twenty-five years of its existence only six Commanderies were enrolled. For the next eighteen years no new Commanderies were formed. And during the next twelve years only seven were added to the roll, making thirteen in fifty-five years, exactly one third our present number. Can we not well say how fruitful the harvest in these latter years. I congratulate you upon the prosperity which has attended the labors of those who planted the seed, and they who faithfully watched over and nourished it during the gloomy days of adversity. May we emulate them in their devotion to the principles of Templar Masonry.

Our Constitution requires the Grand Commander or one of his Council to visit every Subordinate Commandery within the jurisdiction, and for the better performance of this duty I issued General Order No. 1.

In announcing the death of Sir Charles W. Moore he says:

He embodied in his character those great qualities which were demanded of the Knights of old. "Liberal in gifts, high in courage, strong in danger, secret in council, patient in difficulties, powerful against enemies, and prudent in deeds."

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

The doctrine of State rights could not be carried further. We deeply regret such an attitude, at such a time, on the part of such a body.

Resolved, That the Subordinate Commanderies of this jurisdiction are clothed in accordance with the regulations of this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the resolution passed by the Grand Encampment of the United States in 1859 confirmed and continued to such subordinates the right to wear such costume.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Commandery, the right so confirmed and established has not been revoked.

Resolved, That the representatives of this Grand Commandery, in the Grand Encampment of the United States, be and they are hereby instructed not to consent to any revocation of said right.

Resolved That no subordinate body shall be constituted unless they shall have adopted the costume prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States.

Sixty-fourth Annual Assembly, at Boston, October 28, 1874; Sir Charles A. Stott, Grand Commander; 28, out of 39, commanderies represented; session, one day.

It was voted that no candidate should be received into full membership until the order of "Malta" had been conferred upon him.

A biographical sketch and portrait of Rev. and Sir Charles H. Titus, Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island (old nomenclature), are published with the proceedings, and add materially to the value of this beautiful volume.

Sir Charles A. Stott, Lowell, (re-elected) Grand Commander; Sir Alfred F. Chapman, (re-elected) Grand Recorder.

MARYLAND.

Fourth Annual Conclave at Baltimore, May 11, 1874; Sir Francis Lincoln, Grand Commander; 7 Commanderies—all—represented; session, May 11 12, 18, and June 8.

The Grand Commander decided that the right to enter into an exchange of representatives with *foreign* jurisdictions is an exclusive prerogative of the Grand Encampment. He recommended—

That some action be taken whereby the Lodges and Chapters may notify the Commanderies of their suspensions and expulsions, that action may be had when the Commanderies are concerned.

Such a system of official communication exists between the different Grand Bodies of Louisiana, and works well. Sir Edward Schultz presented credentials as the representative of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana.

The Grand Commander reported the discharge of his duty as chairman of a committee appointed by the Grand Commandery to present a jewel to Past Grand Commander Charles H. Mann.

Sir John A. Lynch declined (*mirabile dictu*!) to accept the office of Grand Commander to which he was elected.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is presented by Sir Hermon L. Emmons, Jr. He is opposed to making the Cryptic Degrees a prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood. We concur.

Under the head of Louisiana, we find the following on two opinions of our predecessor, in his report for 1873:

Sir Joseph P. Hornor submitted the Report on Correspondence. He thinks that if suspension in a Lodge or Chapter for non-payment of dues was had after charges duly preferred and a trial had, it should operate as a deprivation of the privileges of Knighthood, but not otherwise.

It is true that suspension or expulsion should never occur except as the result of a trial (except for offences committed in open Lodge, Chapter or Commandery); but have we any right to go behind the verdict and sentence of the Lodge or Chapter?

Sir Knight Hornor holds there is nothing in the Order, in the written or unwritten law, which compels a Templar, in order to maintain his standing in the Commandery, to forever maintain his membership in Lodge or Chapter.

While there may be nothing in the Constitution, regulations or edicts which in so many words makes membership in the Lodge and Chapter requisite to membership in the Commandery, yet as the degrees in the former bodies are essential to membership in the latter, and the Commanderies draw their life-blood from the former, we deem it unfair, and therefore unmasonic to the Lodge and Chapter, to allow Templars to be unaffiliates therein.

Sir Knight Emmons did not approve the Maine resolutions.

Sir Edward T. Schultz, Grand Commander, Baltimore; Sir Frank J. Kugler, Baltimore, (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

MICHIGAN.

Eighteenth Annual Conclave at East Saginaw, June 2, 1874; Sir E. I. Garfield, Grand Commander; 30 Commanderies—all—represented; session two days.

The Grand Commandery unanimously accepted an invitation to visit the "Academy of Music" on the evening of the 2d. The "bill" for the evening is not included in the proceedings.

The Grand Commander complains of a want of uniformity in the work of the Orders in his jurisdiction. He thinks that they have twice as many Commanderies as are needed in the State, and that the number of knights has increased far too rapidly. He recommends the more liberal use of the black ball; that no more charters should be issued for many years to come, and that the dues to the Grand Body should be raised to the sum of one dollar per year, per member. He recounts, at a considerable length, the incidents attending the laying of the cornerstone of the new State Capitol at Lansing, October 2, 1872, which ceremony was performed by the Grand Lodge, escorted by the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies of the State. Fifteen hundred knights were on duty on the occasion, and the display must have been imposing.

He announced the death of Past Grand Commander Nathaniel P. Jacobs in the following words:

It became my painful duty on the 12th of May, 1874, to announce to the Officers and Knights of the jurisdiction, as also to the Grand Commanderies

with whom we are in correspondence, the death, in the 53d year of his age, of Past Grand Commander, NATHANIEL P. JACOBS. As a citizen he served his city, State and country faithfully and well, never betraying a trust or neglecting a duty. In life we honored him and he honored us. In death, we honor and revere the memory of him who was among the first to unfurl the banner of our Order in this jurisdiction, and who, by his knightly bearing and unblemished character, gave us so bright an example to follow.

The Grand Commandery considered it impracticable to accept the hospitalities of the Louisiana Templars, on the occasion of the Triennial, but acknowledged the receipt of the invitation in most courteous terms.

A Past Grand Commander's jewel was ordered to be procured, and presented to Past Grand Commander Garfield; but he desired that such purchase be deferred until those who had served before him had received the testimonials already voted them, but which had not been presented owing to the condition of the treasury.

A banquet at the "Everett House" supplemented the proceedings.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was by Sir William P. Innes, Grand Recorder. It is copious and discriminating, and fills 118 pages with very interesting matter. He was decidedly in favor of prompt and implicit obedience to Order No. 3.

Grand Commander Craft of Indiana, (1873) presented the following views relative to a matter which has been of some interest in Louisiana:

"At the last Annual Conclave, the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported an amendment to Section 12, Art. VIII. of the Statutes, declaring, *inter alia*, that 'in no case shall the Orders of Knighthood be conferred upon a candidate in less than six months after he shall have received the degree of Royal Arch Mason.' It was supposed by many that this amendment was adopted. Such, however, as the records show, was not the case. No action whatever was had upon this portion of the report, and how the erroneous impression got abroad it is difficult to conceive.

"In this connection it may be suggested that the proposed amendment of the committee, aside from all questions of policy or propriety, was unconstitutional. The Constitution of the Grand Encampment fixes the qualification of those entitled to the Orders of Knighthood, in the United States. The single qualification is that the applicant be a 'Royal Arch Mason according to the requirements of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.' Any other requirement is an innovation. Grand Commanderies have no right to take from or add to this qualification. The eligibility of the person to apply for and receive the Knightly Orders is fixed, when he becomes a regular Royal Arch Mason. That is the only test required. If Grand Commanderies are permitted to meddle with this matter, they could play all kinds of havoc on the subject of qualification. They might require the applicant to have been a Royal Arch Mason twenty years as well as six months, or to be of a required height, complexion, weight—to hold, in fee unincumbered, real estate of certain value—to have certain literary or lingual acquirements, other Masonic degrees, or any qualification that might suit their various whims. This whole matter of the qualification of petitioners for Orders must rest where it is placed by the Grand Encampment of the United States, and any change of the present constitutional requirement is beyond the reach of Grand Commanderies, and can be made by that Supreme Body alone. The Grand Conclave of England and Wales has recently stricken out the Royal Arch requisition entirely."

Sir Knight Innes observes thereon;

Your Committee beg to differ with Sir Cruft, on this matter. Carry out his ideas, and the ballot-box of the Templars would become a thing of the past, and all the requisites for the Order would be the possession of the Royal Arch degree; and, where all is now peace and harmony, chaos would reign. Did Sir Knight Cruft ever reflect how many persons are Royal Arch Masons, who are entirely unfit for the Orders of Knighthood, and to whom he by his ballot might say, "Your have come thus far, but shall come no farther."

He does not believe that the Grand Commander should be ineligible to reelection; nor do we.

He pays due and complimentary attention to Grand Commander Lambert's address, and Sir J. P. Horner's Correspondence Report.

Concerning the repeal of the singular resolutions of interdiction passed by the Grand Commandery of Missouri, with reference to parts of the Ritual of the Scottish Rite he makes the following sensible remarks:

But seriously,—your Committee are at a loss to know what the ritual of the Scottish Rite has to do with Templar Masonry, and particularly how a Grand Commandery could take upon itself to say what was objectionable in a separate and distinct body. We advise them to turn their attention to the portions of the rituals governing the "Knights of Pythias," or "Sons of Malta," both "ancient" and "honorable" societies; and unto both of which, I presume, Knights Templar have been admitted, and compel an immediate change, to meet their "views."

He fully concurs in the Maryland decision that suspension or expulsion after due notice from Lodge or Chapter, for non-payment of dues, bars admission to the Commandery.

The report is worthy of all commendation.

Sir L. H. Randall, Grand Rapids, Grand Commander; Sir William P. Innes, Grand Rapids (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

MINNESOTA.

Eighth Annual Conclave, at St. Paul, June 24, 1873; Sir M. W. Getchell, Grand Commander; 7 Commanderies—all—represented; session, one day.

The Grand Commander recommended the preparation and adoption of a Trial Code, and admonishes his jurisdiction on the subject of intemperance. He communicated the Maine resolutions to the Grand Commandery, and the following was adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery is fully satisfied with the uniform adopted by the Grand Encampment of the United States, and deems any change in the same, at present, inexpedient and not desirable.

Pages 178 to 253 inclusive, edition of 1871, of Look's Masonic Trials, were adopted as the Code of the Grand Commandery.

The Correspondence Report was presented by Sir E. D. B. Porter.

Concerning Sir Knight Horner's view, that a belief in the doctrine of the Trinity is an essential qualification of a candidate for the Knightly orders, he observes:

When a worthy Royal Arch Mason, whose character as a man and Mason stands "beyond suspicion," passes through all the ceremonies and subscribes to all the solemn pledges of a Knight Templar, without the least hesitation or equivocation, it is to us much better evidence of his belief in the Christian religion than any sayings of "Madame Rumor" are against such belief.

We do not agree with Sir Knight Horner that it is necessary for a man to be a "Trinitarian" in order to become a Templar. We believe that any worthy Royal Arch Mason, who acknowledges Christ as his Great Exemplar—follows to the best of his ability his unspotted example and teachings—whether he belongs to the "hard shell" or "soft shell," or any other *sect*, is worthy of the Orders of Knighthood. Sectarianism has nothing to do with the question, as we understand it.

Sir Henry L. Carver, St. Paul, Grand Commander; Sir E. D. B. Porter, St. Paul re-elected, Grand Recorder.

Ninth Annual Conclave at St. Paul, June 24, 1874; Sir H. L. Carver, Grand Commander; 7 commanderies—all—represented; session, one day.

The Grand Commander's address is brief and confined to local topics. The question of non-affiliation with Lodge or Chapter, was introduced, and referred to the Jurisprudence Committee, to be reported on at the next annual conclave. The following was adopted:

Where Subordinate Commanderies have not already adopted by-laws by which provision is made to arm and equip each candidate on receiving the Orders, your Committee would recommend that such Commanderies amend their by-laws so as to require a deposit with petition of a sufficient amount to arm and equip according to regulations.

Sir E. D. B. Porter presented the Correspondence Review. He justifies a short report, by stating that occasionally he finds one resembling some sermons—"more remarkable for *length*, than *breadth* or *depth*." If the Minnesota reviewer wrote a longer report, we are sure it would not be shallow, or indicate any narrowness of view. We value his opinions, and should be glad to read more of them. He notes the fact that Minnesota was not included in the Louisiana correspondence report. The proceedings were not received in time.

Under the head of New York, he says:

The G. C. also recommended that bonds be required of the Grand Treasurer, and Grand Recorder. This subject was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, where it still remains—*requiescat in pace*. We believe this matter of bonds to be all wrong. If the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder are not trustworthy, do not elect them; but if they *should* prove to be defaulters, it seems more like justice that the loss should be borne by the Order, rather than by two or three Sir Knights, who may have been nominated in the bond.

The Sir Knight frees his mind on several subjects of importance, and we should like to quote from him further, but we cannot afford time to transcribe, and our only copy of his report is borrowed, and cannot be invaded by our scissors.

Sir Benton H. Langley, Winona, Grand Commander; Sir E. D. B. Porter, St Paul, (re-elected) Grand Recorder.

MISSISSIPPI.

Fourteenth Annual Conclave at Jackson, May 26, 1874; Sir E. T. Henry, Grand Commander; 12, out of 18, commanderies represented; session, two days

Four new Commanderies having commenced work under charter, without having been duly constituted and organized, their work was declared null. They were constituted in proper form, and the Knights upon whom the orders had been conferred informally, were healed.

The following decision by the Grand Master was reported :

GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS **TEMPLAR, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,** }
OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER,
NEW ORLEANS, May 11th, 1874. }

SIR E. T. HENRY :

Right Eminent Grand Commander :

Dear Sir and Frater—Your inquiry of the 8th inst., is to hand, and in answer to your inquiry, I have to say that the decisions of *Past* Grand Masters, not approved by the Grand Encampment, are not authoritative, and only entitled to such weight as the opinions of eminent Masons are entitled to. They are not the highest law, and where doubt exists, as must usually be the case, where they stand unapproved, the *Present* Grand Master should be consulted.

With all Knightly Courtesy,

J. Q. A. FELLOWS, *Grand Master.*

A jewel was presented to Grand Recorder J. L. Power. His long, laborious and faithful service richly entitled him to this mark of esteem.

The R. E. Grand Commander, formally introduced to the Grand Commandery R. E. Sir Joseph P. Hornor, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, who addressed the Grand Commandery in reference to the meeting of the Grand Encampment of the United States in December next.

Sir Knight Hornor, having concluded his remarks, the Grand Recorder offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery highly appreciates the visit of R. E. Joseph P. Hornor, Grand Commander of Louisiana; and having listened to his remarks relative to the coming Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, in the City of New Orleans, and the details necessary to insure success in affording a hospitable reception to Sir Knights who may attend the meeting of that Grand Body, this Grand Commandery pledges its hearty co-operation, and hereby authorize Subordinate Commanderies and individual Sir Knights to tender their services to the R. E. Grand Commander of Louisiana for the occasion referred to.

The Grand Commander of Louisiana, was granted permission, by Grand Commander Henry, to confer the orders upon a companion claiming Mississippi as his home, and on the Report of the Jurisprudence Committee to that effect; the Grand Commandery voted "that the consent of the Subordinate Commandery having territorial jurisdiction, should have been obtained, and not that of the Grand Commander."

During the session the Grand Commander made the following decision :

That the word "regular," as applied to a Royal Arch Mason, is one who has regularly received the degrees whether affiliated or dimitted—that the Constitution does not require a petitioner for the Orders of Knighthood to be an affiliated Royal Arch Mason.

Sir Oliver Clifton presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. Under the head of Tennessee, (1878) we find the following :

It had been also decided "that where the charter of a subordinate Commandery is lost or destroyed, none of its functions or authority become thereby arrested or suspended, and the Commandery may proceed with its business and confer the Orders of Knighthood, as though the loss had not occurred."

These decisions grew out of the destruction by fire of Murfreesboro Commandery No. 10. We agree with the Grand Commander as to the first proposition, but think the second should be modified. He proceeds upon the theory that a charter is a record of the existence of a Commandery, and that when lost, its contents may be proved by parol evidence, just like the contents of any other lost paper.

The objection to this view is that a charter is not a *record*. It is the *evidence* of a record. The *record* proper should remain with the Grand Recorder, and doubtless does, even in Tennessee. Without a charter there can be no legal Commandery. Not a charter in existence merely, but actually present in the Asylum. It is just as necessary as the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses in the Blue Lodge, and you cannot open a legal Commandery without it.

Perhaps we expose our ignorance, but we respectfully ask—why not? The above comments seem to us more like assertion than argument. The Grand Commandery authorizes a body of Knights to act as a Commandery. When duly constituted, until that authority is revoked, or suspended by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery, we do not understand why the mere absence or destruction of the certificate that the authority has been regularly conferred, should prevent the working of the Commandery.

The report is a careful condensation of the Proceedings, and so well prepared that Sir Knight Clinton's apology for its alleged imperfections is entirely superfluous. He asks indulgence for having ventured an opinion in a few instances. His views are of that value, and are so courteously expressed, that we regret that he has not given us more of them.

Sir P. M. Savery, Baldwyn, Grand Commander; Sir J. L. Power, Jackson, (re-elected) Grand Recorder.

MISSOURI.

Fourteenth Annual Conclave at St. Louis, October 6, 1874; Sir John Ure, Grand Commander; 21, out of 23, Commanderies represented; session, one day.

The Grand Commander reports a singular case. An over-zealous friend applied for the orders in behalf of a companion, and the result was—rejection. The companion had signed no petition. Subsequently, he did sign a petition, which was presented to another Commandery, and he was elected. Objections were raised to the conferring of the orders. The case was reported to the Grand Commander. Six months having elapsed, after due investigation, the Grand Commander decided that the second commandery should have charge of the case, and if there were no further objection, the orders might be conferred. To obviate a recurrence of such a difficulty, the Grand Commander recommended that signing the name of an applicant by a Knight, without power of attorney, should be declared an offence.

The Grand Commander made the following decision:

I held that the law requiring an applicant for the orders to be a member of either a Lodge or Chapter, the same law holds after he becomes a Knight, and he should hold membership in one or the other.

The Jurisprudence Committee reported as follows concerning this decision:

That, in our opinion, the first decision of the Grand Commander is not sustained by the law. Section 3, of Article 6 of the Statutes, requires an applicant for the Order to be a member of either a Lodge or a Chapter, but we do not think it, or any other statute, requires him to remain a member thereof.

But in order to cure the evils resulting from Knight Templars withdrawing from Lodges and Chapters, we recommend the following amendment to the Statutes:

Amend Article 6 of the Statutes by adding thereto the following section:

Section 4.—Each member of a Commandery within this jurisdiction shall be required to be a member of both a Lodge and a Chapter; *Provided*, that no Sir Knight who has in good faith applied for and received a Dimit from his Lodge or Chapter, or both, in order to join another Lodge or Chapter, and has been refused affiliation upon petition therefor, shall be debarred the privileges of the Order. And any member wilfully remaining unaffiliated in Lodge or Chapter for the space of one year shall be subject to a charge of unbecoming conduct, and suspension therefor after due trial.

The death of Sir Josiah Hunt, Past Grand Commander of Illinois, and Past Grand Captain General of Missouri, was announced. He died October 3, 1874.

As usual, the Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Sir G. F. Gouley. An affection of the eyes prevented his doing himself, or his readers, full justice. We sincerely trust that such a misfortune may not again befall us and him.

The following, however, has the old ring. We find it under the head of Connecticut, (1874.)

We are astonished to notice the following in the address:

I would call your attention to the matter of a Knight Templar being expelled from his Lodge. As now understood he is thereby expelled from his Commandery. By right, a power that does not create, cannot expel, or sit in judgment upon an Order they have no jurisdiction over in making their laws. The Lodge do not and cannot make laws to govern the Commandery as long as the Commandery is a separate body. It must be an act of the Grand Commandery, or subordinate, before a Knight can be expelled from the Order. It is therefore necessary that we have a by-law to that effect.

This suggestion, if adopted, would not only be unconstitutional, but unmasonic. If the Grand Commandery is willing to acknowledge that there is no more Masonry in our Order of the Temple than there is in the Order of Druids, etc., then a great deal of our ritual must be changed, and the prerequisite of being a Mason before being a Templar must be stricken from the O. B. and laws, else we will be holding Masonic communication with an expelled Mason.

Sir Knight Hornor had characterized our Missouri frater's report for 1873 as "utterly, thoroughly, and terribly, miserable."

Sir Knight Gouley responds "utterly, thoroughly, and terribly," saying of our proceedings for that year that "Sir Joseph P. Hornor submitted again one of his charming reports on correspondence." Is not that the retort courteous?

Sir Knight Hornor is further complimented in the following style:

"The Grand Commandery realizing his excellent capacity to run a banquet, elected him its Grand Commander."

Sir Geo. Frank concludes:

All the proceedings evince a spirit of joy at the prospective reunion in New Orleans on the 1st of December, where the "Mutuals" will have a gay old time, settling the last three years' accounts.

Some of the Mutuals may have had just such a time, but to us they seemed as sedate, staid and demure, as though there was no fun in it, or them. Sir Knight Gouley was especially serious, not to say melancholy. We heard Sir Knight Simons laugh once. Our amiable young friend Sir Knight Parvin, was about the only one of the Mutuals who exhibited signs of cheerfulness.

The attempt to get the corps together in what Sir Knight Corson calls the "Reporters' Syndicate," was a decided failure, for which, however, Sir Knight Simons was most to blame.

Sir S. A. Gilbert, Weston, Grand Commander; Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, St. Louis, (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

NEBRASKA.

Second Annual Conclave at Omaha, November 12, 1873; Sir Robt. Wilkenson Furnas, Grand Commander; 4 commanderies—all—represented; session, three days.

The Grand Commander, owing to what he believed to be an important omission in the usual form for application for membership, had issued an order with a form requiring belief in the truth of the Christian religion.

The Grand Recorder, Sir T. A. Creigh, reports his progress in laying the foundation for a Grand Commandery library. He presents a brief report on Correspondence, no committee having been assigned to that duty. His report is confined almost entirely to the notice paid the new Grand Commandery of Nebraska by sister jurisdictions. These greetings of welcome are right pleasant reading, and must have given much satisfaction to our Nebraska fratres. Sir Knight Creigh declined a re-election. This Grand Commandery closed its second year with a balance of \$478 37 on hand—a good beginning. The Grand Commander elect, Grand Prelate and Grand Lecturer were requested to confer the orders in the several Commanderies, "in accordance with the work as received by the R. E. Grand Commander from B. B. French, the father of Knighthood in America."

The Grand Recorder was wisely authorized to stereotype all the proceedings.

The proceedings are ornamented with an engraved portrait of Past Grand Commander Robt. W. Furnas, and by the newly adopted coat of arms of the Grand Commandery, in colors.

Sir Orsamus H. Irish, Grand Commander; Sir Wm. R. Bowen, Grand Recorder.

NEW JERSEY.

Sixteenth Annual Conclave at Trenton, September 8, 1874; Sir William H. McIlhanney, Grand Commander; 12 commanderies—all—represented; session, one day.

Sir James Watts, Grand Treasurer, died December 13, 1873. His death was suitably announced by the Grand Commander.

In every department of life which he occupied he was noted for his unvarying kindness, practical benevolence, and gentleness of demeanor, which, combined with sterling integrity and honesty of purpose and action, made him to be respected and beloved by all with whom he was associated.

The Grand Commander announces general obedience to Order No. 3. and says that—

"The Knights of New Jersey are not forgetful of the first lessons they are taught in Masonry."

We regret to note that the finances of this Grand Commandery are not in a flourishing condition.

The Grand Commander recommended the preparation and adoption of a "Code of Trial by Charges," for the use of subordinate Commanderies. His suggestion was complied with.

A candidate for the orders had been elected. Objections to his being admitted to the Asylum were made privately to the E. Commander, who declared the candidate rejected. The objections were subsequently withdrawn. Was a second ballot necessary? The Grand Commander decided, that as the objections were not made in open Commandery, "verbally or by a formal communication thereto in writing," (decision Grand Master Palmer, 1868), they were not legal; that the candidate had not been legally *rejected*; that the objections being withdrawn, although illegally made, a new ballot was not requisite, and the candidate was entitled to receive the orders.

An E. Commander declined to perform official duty, because he could not consent to sit with a member of his Commandery. The Grand Commander decided :

That every member in good standing had a right to be present at the conclaves of his Commandery, and that personal difficulties would not relieve the E. Commander from the faithful discharge of his duties.

Charges had been preferred against a Knight, but before trial the Commandery voted to expunge the case from the record, and that the whole proceeding should cease. The accused appealed, insisting upon his right to a verdict. The Grand Commandery ordered the trial to proceed to a verdict, and that the expunged matter should be restored to the record.

The following decision will not be universally approved :

A Commandery has no right to establish a by-law denying to those members who are in arrears for dues, the right to vote at the annual election of officers, or on any question that may come before the Commandery.

A Pennsylvania Commandery conferred the orders upon a companion residing within the jurisdiction of a commandery in New Jersey, without permission from the latter. Complaint was made to the Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, who reported that he had received "a full and satisfactory explanation and statement" from the accused Commandery. The statement was forwarded by him to the Grand Commander of New Jersey, who laid it before his own Grand Commandery, and expressed his dissatisfaction therewith. This dissatisfaction was perfectly justifiable. An apology, and not an explanation, was needed in the premises. There could exist no excuse for such a violation of jurisdictional right. The address of the Grand Commander is an excellent one.

The following ruling was made by the Jurisprudence Committee. We opine that its correctness will not be generally accepted. Certainly the committee are right in stating that there are many precedents to the contrary.

The granting of a dispensation to a Commandery by a Grand Commander (for which there are many precedents) to receive petitions for the orders or membership, and to ballot for, and in case of election, confer the orders at one and the same conclave, the by-laws of the Commandery making other provision, is an assumption of authority beyond the prerogative of a Grand Commander.

Of course, Sir Thomas J. Corson presents the New Jersey correspondence review. When we say that it is characteristic, we commend it to all our readers who know anything of the value of the Templar correspondence reports of the country; but, as usual, the qualities of the review under consideration are absolutely indescribable. It deserves praise and criticism; excites admiration, laughter, surprise and respect. Long may this Esculapian Knight continue at his post, armed with "gray goose quill;" *iritis* or *no iritis*.

He says this on the uniform question:

While a law is in existence, which has been enacted by proper authority, which authority we have vowed to support, we are bound to obey it or be guilty of perjury. It is not optional with us whether we will or will not obey the edicts of any Masonic Grand Body to which we are subordinate, but we must obey such edict, or prove ourselves unworthy the name and titles which we have assumed. If we can change the edict in a lawful manner, well and good—we have a perfect right to do that, but while the law exists, he who disobeys it violates his vow, and proves himself unworthy the name of an honorable man or Mason.

Concerning the action of the Connecticut Jurisprudence Committee on the same matter, he blandly remarks:

This committee, with a refreshing coolness, asked and obtained permission to report on the subject "next year." As the Grand Encampment of the United States will have finally settled the whole matter before that time, we await with breathless anxiety, the report of the Connecticut committee, which will doubtless give us such an opinion as the immortal Jack Bunsby would be proud of, if he were in the flesh.

Under the head of Louisiana, he compliments our Grand Commandery, and Past Grand Master Fellows, as follows;

The volume which contains the proceedings at the eleventh Annual Conclave of this small but most active and energetic Grand Commandery, held in February, 1874, is adorned by a most life-like likeness of Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, Grand Master of the United States. His placid countenance seems to indicate that the serenity of his mind hasn't been very greatly disturbed by the fulminations of wrath which a few disaffected Sir K's, who seem to think that obedience to constituted authority is an evidence of unmanly servility, and a degradation of personal dignity and honor, have so fiercely hurled at him on account of his famous "Order No. 3." In fact, he looks as if he isn't scared a bit, and we feel confident that the Grand Encampment in December will fully sustain the Grand Master, and teach these malcontents that they must yield obedience to the edicts of that Grand Body, or else step out of the ranks. So mote it be.

On a decision of the Grand Master he thus comments:

We here have it announced that "striking from the roll" entails no disability unless it is done on account of "suspension or expulsion." Striking from the roll may be done "by reason of death," but as such action injures the standing of a Knight *only* when it is the result of "suspension and expulsion," it of course cannot do so when it is done "*by reason of death*," therefore, death does not entail any disability. If this be so, and the Grand Master says so, then have our New Orleans Fratres most appropriately named one of their Commanderies "*Indivisible Friends*," for if death cannot separate them, what power can? We are bothered about one thing only. If death entails no disability upon the Knight, does it, or does it not, relieve him from the duty of paying his dues? If not, Sir Hornor will please present our name for application to "*Indivisible Friends Commandery, No. 1*," and advance the fees for the same.

We take the following from his remarks on Sir Knight Hornor's last report:

The report on correspondence again emanates from Sir P. Joseph Horner. It is, of course, a first-rate report, but, in many respects, hardly equal to some of his former productions. In fact, Sir Joseph does not "gush" quite so severely as heretofore. Mayhap, age is telling on him a little, not in the way of impairing his faculties at all, but rather in curbing his sportive disposition, making him more quiet and sedate.

* * * * *

We feel most sincerely sorry to lose Companion Horner from the Grand Army of Reporters, in which he has done such noble work. Many a time, and oft, have we clashed swords with each other, but never in anger. When we have differed in opinion, each has conceded to the other honesty of purpose, and sincerity of belief. As a clear and logical writer, he has few superiors, and his loss will be deeply felt in our ranks. Frank and fearless, ever ready to combat wrong and uphold right, his plume ever led the van, and his sword ever dealt its vigorous blows wherever the battle raged the fiercest. May God bless this true Templar, and Christian gentleman.

We find this notice at the conclusion of the report :

P. P. S.—Let all Reporters bear in mind that the Reporters' Convention will assemble at Nashville, Tennessee, on Monday evening, November 23d, 1874.

It didn't meet there; Sir Knight Corson didn't come to New Orleans, and at New Orleans the Syndicate generally failed to come to time, to the great regret of some of us youngsters who wanted an opportunity to get a look at the great lights of the reportorial fraternity.

Sir David S. Battey, Newark, Grand Commander; Sir Thos. J. Corson, (re-elected) Grand Recorder.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Annual conclave at Concord, September 30, 1873; 9 commanderies—all—represented; Sir Able Hutchins, Grand Commander; session, one day.

The address of the Grand Commander was wholly devoted to local affairs.

A valuable report on the numbering and rank of the subordinate Commanderies was submitted by a special committee. Their work was very ably done, and the report may be referred to as an authority upon the matters discussed. It is 21 pages in length, and we cannot do justice to it by extracts.

An amended Grand Constitution was adopted during the session.

No Correspondence Report.

Sir Joseph W. Fellows, Manchester, Grand Commander; Sir Jno. A. Harris, Concord (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

NEW YORK.

Sixty-first annual conclave at Oswego, October 13, 1874; Sir Mead Belden, Grand Commander; 48, out of 52, commanderies represented; session two days.

The Grand Commander had refused in several instances to permit commanderies to move about in their several jurisdictions, holding that commanderies are established to promote a principal, and not for the convenience of those who do not belong to it; and further, that it is contemplated by the law, that they should meet at the places named in the warrant. He would not issue dispensation for removal without better cause shown.

On public installations he says :

The question has been asked me, "whether public installations are permissible under the law?" I answer, without hesitation, Yes. I have no sympathy with that feeling that would keep within the tiled precincts of the asylum matters in which our families and friends could just as well participate as not; on the contrary, I esteem it a duty, whenever occasion offers, to allow them to join with us in such exercises as by their nature have nothing in them to conceal from the knowledge of the general public. The forms and ceremonies of installation are published in all our manuals, and no one has ever pretended to make them an object of secrecy, and I, therefore, have no hesitation in saying that, whenever it is desirable to exemplify them in public, we had better do so, and thus secure for ourselves and the Order in general the sympathy and approbation of those whose good opinion we most desire to conciliate.

He decided that a re-election necessitates re-installations; that expulsion by Lodge or Chapter expells from the Commandery, and that the restoration of a Sir Knight thus expelled requires a unanimous vote of the Commandery after restoration by the expelling body. The Jurisprudence Committee did not approve that part of the decision requiring unanimous vote. He favored adherence to the regulation uniform.

New York has nearly 8000 active Knights Templar—the empire jurisdiction.

Past Grand Commander Frank L. Stowell was made the recipient of an elegant Past Grand Commander's jewel in recognition of past efficient services.

The correspondence report was presented by that eminent Knight, Sir John W. Simons, and sustains his well earned reputation as a Masonic reviewer.

He takes issue with the Grand Commander of Alabama (1874), on the point that our Order does not need public defense, and says:

On the contrary, we insist: That in this country, of all others, no institution, order, or association can long exist in defiance of public opinion. When in 1826, public opinion was turned against us, this Order of ours was temporarily annihilated; and, in 1845, when we received the Orders, there were not as many Templars in the city of New York as to-day there are in the smallest of its Commanderies. That to-day we are strong, numerous, and influencial, is because, under Providence, public opinion is with us as a strong tower and defence, and when it fails us the day of tribulation will be at hand. It is therefore, always wise, in our judgment, to enlighten and conciliate public opinion towards the Order. What may be judicious for a Grand Commandery to do at its Annual Conclave, is, of course, a matter in its own discretion. We speak only of the general principle.

Of Grand Commander DeGrange he truthfully says:

This R. E. Frater appears to have been imbued with the idea that when a man is elected Grand Commander, he will be expected to attend to the duties of that high station, and accordingly he went to shaking up the dry bones. This seemed a little startling at first, but after a little practice, it came to be acknowledged that his idea was a correct one, and his method calculated to forward the general interest.

He continues his discussion with Sir Knight Hornor as to the right of Past Grand Officers to issue proxies entitling their representatives to vote in Grand Conclaves, and observes:

An officer of a Grand Commandery has duties to perform, among which is that of attending the Grand Encampment in person or by proxy; a Past Officer has no duties and no constituency, and, therefore, his proxy, when allowed, represents the small end of nothing. It seems to us that those who are to govern the craft by making its laws and regulations, should have something

more behind them than a figure 9 with the tail cut off. We are quite willing that Past Grand Officers of a certain rank should have voice and vote in our deliberative assemblies as a recognition of former service, but only on condition that they exercise the privilege in person. We were present in Hartford when the present Constitution was adopted, and then and there stated the same views as here expressed, and there was general assent. We therefore feel certain that the intention was to allow only actual officers to appear and vote by proxy.

He says of our predecessor :

Sir Hornor, we regret to add, was prevailed upon to lay down the pen and take up the minor instrument called a sword, which he is to wield as Grand Commander. The Mutuels cannot part with him thus, and will only consent to grant him a furlough, so that during the coming festivities, Louisiana may have some one to make a speech or two, should occasion require; that being accomplished, he will please consider his leave of absence at an end, and report for duty at the correspondence bureau.

Sir A. Eugene Lytle, Auburn, Grand Commander; Sir Robt. Macoy, New York (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

OHIO.

Thirty-second annual conclave at Dayton, September 9, 1874; Sir Enoch E. Carson, Grand Commander; session, 2 days.

The Grand Commander continues to defend his decision in favor of conferring the orders on maimed Royal Arch Masons, and believes—

That progress has been made towards having this disgraceful barbaric rule blotted from every branch of the Masonic order. The discussion of the subject means its inevitable destruction; for it cannot withstand the test of discussion in the light of civilized, enlightened, Christian truth.

What next?

The death of the venerable Past Grand Commander, Christopher F. Hanselmann, was announced. He was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, Templar in Ohio, and a recognized authority on the ritual.

The Grand Commander decided that an objection made to the conferring of the orders on an elected candidate ceased to have effect upon the dismissal of the objector. An "emphatically successful" general parade and review of the subordinate commanderies preceded the assembly of the Grand Conclave. The Grand Commandery postponed its opinion upon the decision of the Grand Commander with reference to maimed Royal Arch Masons.

The Correspondence Report was again presented by Sir Wm. M. Cunningham. He continues to defend the Grand Commander's peculiar doctrine as to the physical qualifications of candidates for the knightly orders, but he does not go as far as his commanding officer does, and claims to be conservative as to land-marks, making a clear distinction between Masonry and Templarism. How far Templar Knighthood is connected with the Masonic Institution, is a subject that deserves thought, discussion and elucidation. The matter is continually before us in one shape and another. Non-affiliation, non-payment of dues, and the qualifications of candidates, are all connected with this question, and the views of the learned are of almost infinite variety concerning them. As to the position of Sir Knight Cunningham, we hardly think that references to the customs of Templars in A. D. 1180, can add to its strength. We do

not, for one, believe that the Templars of the United States are the legitimate descendants of the ancient order of that name, Addison to the contrary notwithstanding. In our opinion, the proof is the other way. Our views may be regarded as heretical, but we rather think that the facts of history are with us. Of course Sir Knight Cunningham, with his views on the subject, finds much to criticise in the address of the Grand Prior of Canada, of 1873. He believes that ancient Templarism became "merged" into the Masonic system. *We* do not, for the simple reason that there is no trustworthy evidence to that effect, and we are sceptic enough in such matters to call for the testimony, rather than to accept without question all that our writers on modern Templar Knighthood would have us believe on trust. Of one thing there can be but little doubt: when our modern order was first known to English Masons, it was essentially a Masonic degree, whatever its ritual, and by the Grand Lodge of York was recognized as a fourth degree in Masonry, preceding the Royal Arch. The minutes of that old Grand Lodge appear to be conclusive on this point.

We are glad to note the hearty loyalty of our frater to order No. 3. We would give place to all he says of this subject under the head of Connecticut, did our limits permit. He interprets Grand Master Fellows's decision, addressed to our Grand Commander in 1874, as a sufficient answer to the objections to Grand Commander Carson's decision concerning unaffiliated Royal Arch Masons. The report is an able one. Its writer expresses thoughtful views with courtesy.

Sir Enoch T. Carson, Cincinnati (re-elected), Grand Commander; Sir James Nesbitt, Troy (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Twenty-first annual conclave at Bellefonte, May 12, 1874; Sir Grant Weidman, Grand Commander; 45 out of 46, commanderies represented; session, three days.

Before opening the Grand Conclave, Brother and ex-Governor Andrew G. Curtin, delivered an address of welcome on behalf of Constans Commandery No. 33, and the citizens of Bellefonte, to which an appropriate reply was made by the Grand Commander.

The Grand Commander declared it to be his opinion that no Commandery should be permitted to appear in public on any occasion, not even at a funeral, without permission of the Grand Commander. He objects to all improvements and novelties in our ritual and ceremonies, and makes some admonitory remarks upon the subject. We note the following decisions:

A Sir Knight in good Masonic standing as a Royal Arch Mason, but not a member of a Chapter, cannot be admitted a member of a Commandery.

An Eminent Commander has the undoubted power to forbid or prohibit a Sir Knight of his command from appearing in public parade with his Commandery when the Eminent Commander knows that the Sir Knight has been guilty of gross unknighly conduct.

A Sir Knight ceasing to be a member of a Commandery by reason of the sequestration or resumption of the charter of the Chapter or Blue Lodge of

which he was a member, if and when in good Masonic standing, can apply to any Commandery for membership. He need not apply to the Commandery of which he was last a member.

An objection to an applicant after election and prior to conferring the orders is a bar to his receiving the orders until it is withdrawn or the objector dies. After the death of the objector, a new petition should be presented.

This last matter was passed upon by the Grand Commander of Missouri, and is noticed in this report under the head of that State. The decisions differ, and we prefer that of Missouri.

Sir James H. Hopkins wrote the correspondence report. It is, he says, his last, and we are very sorry for it. He has done good service in this field, and has appeared to do it *con amore*, but is now called to perform deeds of more exalted usefulness. This review is one of the best, if not the best, of the year.

It opens thus :

We present our report of the annual grand inspection and review of the Templar army of the Great Republic. State after State files past with waving banners, nodding plumes and glittering arms; each rivalling all others in knightly bearing. With breast to breast and heart to heart, with steady step and unwavering eye, all march on under their respective chiefs, forming together a compact legion such as the world never elsewhere saw assembled. The enthusiasm of historians, nor the inspiration of poets, nor the imagination of romancists has ever sketched an array of braver men and nobler minds and truer hearts. Theirs is no sentimental dream or spirit of Quixotic adventure, but a steady purpose, a calm resoluteness, a well directed zeal and a practical courage. Theirs is the chivalry of other centuries, refined and elevated by an advanced civilization; retaining all the virtues of the old, yet divested of its fanaticism and superstition.

When we reflect upon the sublime capabilities of this illustrious army, and remember the mighty responsibilities which are the inevitable accompaniment of such possibilities, we know no words of sufficient power, no arts of eloquence sufficiently magical, to rouse these Knights to the full performance of their duty.

On the subject of non-payment of dues he says, under the head of Georgia.

No Knight who refuses or neglects to perform any of his duties can reasonably complain if his Commandery prefers to relieve itself from carrying dead weights. The Commandery must bear the burden of the Grand Commandery dues for each name upon its rolls, and is fully justified in striking off all who fail in their duty in this regard, unless there are peculiar circumstances invoking relief.

Of the lamented Sir Knight Munger, of Kentucky, he says :

Alas, brave heart ! that you should not be present to aid in that " consummation so devoutly to be wished ! " Past Grand Commander Woodruff communicates to us the sad intelligence that during the past winter Sir Knight Munger

" Wrapped the drapery of his couch about him,
And laid down to pleasant dreams "—

Dreams at whose awakening baldrics and cloaks, and tunics and plumes, and swords and crosses will all be forgotten ; and the white robe and the golden crown will be the costume of the Knights who have fought the good fight and kept the faith. With sorrowing hearts we stand beside the grave of that accomplished Mason, genial gentleman and true-hearted Knight. His virtues are a precious memory to all who knew him ; consoling those who would else be saddened by the pall thrown over his vacant stall.

Of Sir Knight Hornor's report of 1873, he remarks in this genial strain :

The Proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Commanderies were reviewed by Sir Joseph P. Hornor. This valiant Knight has been in training for this distinguished position, and certainly fulfills the hopes of his admiring friends. The peculiar abilities necessary to successfully and satisfactorily wield the sceptre of this office—the Pen—manifested themselves in him in so clear and unmistakable a manner that he received the embrace—or, as Sir John says, the “grand hug”—of the M. A.'s before he had won its honors.

He quotes and comments on an important matter, as follows:

Sir Joseph says: “We hold there is nothing in the Order, in the written or unwritten law, which compels a Templar, in order to maintain his standing in the Commandery, to forever maintain his membership in Lodge or Chapter.”

The distinction is here drawn between one who voluntarily withdraws from his Lodge or Chapter and one who is suspended, even for non-payment of dues. The argument against this is, that as no one can receive the Orders without first passing through Lodge and Chapter, these are the foundation stones of Knighthood, and if they be removed in any way, the superstructure must tumble: that it is not permitted that one shall spurn the steps by which he rose. This certainly has been the tendency of all Templar legislation and decisions; but we prefer the position assumed by Sir Knight Hornor. Each branch of Masonry should be self-sustaining, and should not seek to be borne on another's shoulders.

Respecting the attitude of Maine on the uniform question, he wittily says :

We sincerely pray that Divine power may exorcise this spirit of discord, and that when we meet in New Orleans all may be found sitting *clothed and in their right minds*.

We find the following under the head of Missouri :

For some years there has been a bitter feud between the Scottish Rite and the Grand Commandery of Missouri; but Sirs Pike and Gouley have met and embraced. “Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.” They have buried the hatchet, smoked the calumet, and are busy removing the dents from their battered armor, so that there may be no traces of “the late unpleasantness.” All this is very lovely, and much to be commended; but what puzzles us is to know how the Grand Commandery learned that the A. & A. Rite had “expunged from its ritual all objectionable portions?”

He fully sustains the position taken by Sir Knight Hornor, in his discussion with Sir J. W. Simons, on the question of Past Grand Commanders voting by proxy.

John H. Dusenbury, Great Bend, Grand Commander; Charles Eugene Meyer, Philadelphia, (re-elected,) Grand Recorder.

TENNESSEE.

Twelfth, annual conclave at Jackson, May 14, 1874; Sir Henry Martyn Aiken, Grand Generalissimo, acting Grand Commander; 14 commanderies—all—represented; session, two days.

The Grand Commander, Sir George Mellersh, forwarded his annual report from Dallas, Texas, having since the last annual conclave taken up his residence in that State.

An address was presented through the Grand Recorder from Sir Joseph M. Anderson, Deputy Grand Commander, which recounts his official acts.

The consolidation of three Commanderies into one was authorized—a sensible movement.

Subordinate commanderies were directed to order each Knight to provide himself with complete Templar costume, and to require newly created Knights to so provide themselves.

Sir John Frizzel presents a correspondence report of one page, in which he does not attempt any review of Proceedings.

Sir Morton Boyte Howell, Nashville, Grand Commander; Sir Jno. Frizzel, Nashville, (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

TEXAS.

Annual conclave at Houston, June 3, 1874; Sir A. C. Baker, Grand Commander; 9 commanderies—all—represented; session, four days.

The Grand Commander announced the death of Sir William T. Austin, Past Grand Treasurer. He says that—

He was ever at his post, in Masonic work. Even the infirmities of declining years, and feeble health, did not prevent his participation in our labors until a few days before he received his last summons.

In the fullness of a ripe age, after a life of great energy, zeal and usefulness to Masonry, he has gone to the Asylum above, where he is at rest, and will be called to duty no more.

The Grand Commandery courteously acknowledged the receipt of the invitation of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, to unite with the latter in performing escort duty to the Grand Encampment, but found it inexpedient to accept. They are pleased to say that they decline with less regret—

From the consciousness that our fraters of Louisiana will do full honor to the occasion, and by the Knightly courtesy for which they are so eminently distinguished, fully vindicate the reputation of our Order in all Knightly characteristics.

The committee on correspondence failed to present their report. No business of general interest was transacted.

Sir B. B. Richardson, Galveston, Grand Commander; Sir R. Brewster, Houston, (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

VERMONT.

Annual conclave, at Burlington, June 9, 1874; Sir Joseph L. Perkins, Grand Commander; 9 commanderies—all—represented; session, one day.

Grand Commander Perkins is by no means afraid to acknowledge the commission of an error. He does it in this wise:

When the baton of office was placed in my hands, one of the rights, which without investigation I was sure inhered thereto, was the right to grant dispensations to ballot for candidates at special conclaves. The evidence was *prima facie*. It had been exercised; therefore it existed. Last year, while one of our subordinates was under dispensation, by the neglect of their committee to report in due season, they were prevented balloting for a large number of candidates at the last regular conclave of the year, it being their last opportunity to prepare "work for inspection" before asking a charter of this Grand Body. Under these circumstances, I gave a dispensation to ballot for said candidates at a special conclave.

But alas for the office! Infallibility, no more than such dispensations, inhered there. I had gone one step too far. When Mahomet was fascinated by the charming grace and radiant beauty of one of those dark-eyed houris, he was more discreet. He made sure of his ground. Leaving his people, as he said, for a season of fasting and prayer, he retired to the holy mountain. And wonderful to relate! when he returned, he brought back this new revelation: their God decreed a plurality of wives as a divine favor to the faithful. Mahomet was his prophet; he could not question, but obey. Therefore he submitted himself, and took to wife the ravishing dark-eyed beauty. But I am not a prophet or the son of a prophet, and must acknowledge, without figure or device, in unmistakable Anglo-Saxon, that I was mistaken. I wish to make this distinct—

Lest some other Grand Commander,
Ward'ring o'er this spreading main,
See my track, and be mistaken
Where the pathway should be plain.

The importance of the matter contained in the following extract from the address induces us to present it to our readers although we have already exceeded our allotted limit.

The faith of the Templar is broad as the necessity of a needy world, and high as heaven. Lived out in thought and word and deed, it produces characters like palm trees, glorious in their symmetry and beauty.

But it has been confessed to me more than once by members of our Order, that upon one subject—namely the divinity of Christ—they could not accept its teachings. It was urged, in extenuation of a position so anomalous, that when this faith was made known at their initiation they had not the presence of mind to offer any dissent. I do not belong to that class who are more tenacious about belief than practice, but these facts have suggested to my mind the injustice to the candidate in not informing him of such a dogma, which is not of universal belief, and to which he is expected to assent.

The belief of our Order in the divinity and saving power of Christ is neither theoretical nor optional, but is declared to be the foundation upon which we are built. If so, it is of importance that the petition and declaration which every candidate for admission to our Order signs contain this truth, so that every one shall be made aware of a fact so important, as a preliminary step, at a time when he can candidly consider its relation to himself, unembarassed by witnesses or ceremonies.

Our object is to strengthen and maintain an Order upon a certain, distinct, and plainly wrought foundation. If novitiates have not confidence in the foundation laid, then they can have no part in the superstructure; for, in this Temple, foundation stone, buttressed wall, and climbing tower, are all hewn from the same rock and polished by the same rule. The foundation is the life, crucifixion, atonement, and resurrection of Christ Jesus our Lord. Every living stone added to the superstructure, before being incorporated into the wall, must be permeated by His life, made alive through His crucifixion and atonement, and receive the token of eternal life through His resurrection.

Templars, this is not a figurative expression to beguile the hour! Either it is the literal truth, applied to you and to me, to your life and to my life, or our ritual is a tissue of falsehoods and a roll of blasphemy. A man cannot become a Knight Templar unless he believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the world. He may become a member of a Lodge of Masons if he believe in God as the Maker and Ruler of the Universe. But, if he would become a Knight of the Temple, he must leave behind Mussulman and Jew, and accept the latest revelation of God, through Jesus Christ His Son.

In order to give practical effect to these views, he recommends the insertion of the following clause in the form of petition for the Orders:

That I have a firm and steadfast belief in the truth of the Christian religion as revealed in the New Testament.

A dispensation had been issued to a commandery to perform escort duty on Decoration Day. We regard that as a mistake. Templarism and Masonry have nothing to do on such occasions. Another Grand Officer of Vermont—the Grand Master—made a better ruling on this kind of display.

The address is admirable, full of the true Knightly spirit, practical in advice and direction, and clothed in elegant and appropriate language.

The committee on correspondence prepared no report, owing to the depletion of the treasury.

Sir T. F. Stewart, its chairman, for five years the reporter of the Grand Commandery, ten years reporter for the Grand Council, ten years Grand Prelate, and twelve years Grand Chaplain for the Grand Council and Grand Chapter, admonished by the weight of years, resigns his duties to younger, but not more efficient hands. His long and important services have earned the permanent gratitude of his fratres and companions, and having valiantly fought as a true Knight, he is entitled to repose, and all the rewards of faithful performance of duty.

Sir Joseph L. Perkins, St. Johnsbury, (re-elected) Grand Commander; Sir Jay Monroe, Poland, Montpelier, Grand Recorder.

VIRGINIA.

A special assembly was held at Norfolk, June 12, 1878, for drill and inspection; 6 commanderies being represented.

Sir A. W. Starke's system of tactics, were adopted. A prize was awarded at the Opera House, after inspection, to Portsmouth Commandery No. 5. An excellent address was delivered by the Grand Prelate *pro tem.*, Rev. and Sir C. C. Bitting. We would gladly give our readers a taste of its quality, did space permit.

Annual assembly at Richmond, December 11, 1878; Sir Wm. B. Isaacs, Grand Commander; ten out of fifteen commanderies represented; session, one day.

The Grand Commander announced his appointment as representative of the Grand Commanderies of Iowa, and of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Approving the previously adopted stand of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, he declined the proffered honors.

He thinks we are getting too much in the habit of issuing orders or commands, in "true military style," and prefers that our orders be worded as "requests."

We look upon the Order of Knights Templar as, at least, semi-military. Our organization is military, and so are our tactics and drill, our arms and equipments. We claim to be of the church militant, soldiers of the cross, and unlike Grand Commander Isaacs, we cannot see anything inconsistent between all this and that charity and pure beneficence, which are supposed to be the characteristics of our Order. Directions from our officers come to us appropriately in the shape of military orders, and if our Virginia fratres will

permit us to say it, should be implicitly obeyed as such, when emanating from proper authority, and correctly transmitted. After all, there is nothing more peremptory in an order from an E. Commander, than in a summons attested by a lodge seal.

The Correspondence Report was presented by Sir James A. Scott. It is *all* report, and is of course a good one.

From his observations under the heads of Alabama and Georgia, we conclude that he is decidedly in favor of dropping Knights who are suspended in Lodge or Chapter for non-payment of dues. He professes his warm sympathy with our fratres of Maine, in their struggle with Order No. 3. Under the head of Maryland (1873), he says:

We note that he made the following decision: "A Knight Templar permitting himself to be suspended or expelled from his Lodge or Chapter, for non-payment of dues, after having due notice that he would be thus dealt with, cannot visit or be admitted to a Commandery. I hold that as symbolic Masonry is the foundation stone upon which the superstructure of the Order of the Temple is erected, any attempt to tear down or weaken the foundation by refusing to sustain his Lodge or Chapter, unfits him to enter the Asylum; believing that no Lodge or Chapter would suspend or expel a Brother for non-payment of dues, when his circumstances were such as to preclude his paying them, and as good standing in both Lodge and Chapter are pre-requisites for application and membership in a Commandery, the same condition must continue." This we regard as impregnable ground, and forcibly expressed.

Most of the Proceedings reviewed in this report were noticed by our predecessor last year.

The Jurisprudence Committee declined to concur in the strictures of the Grand Commander on the use of military phraseology. They embodied their dissent in a resolution, and it was adopted by the Grand Commandery.

Sir William B. Isaacs, Richmond, (re-elected) Grand Commander; Sir John Dove, Richmond, (re-elected) Grand Recorder.

Annual assembly at Richmond, December 17, 1874; Sir Wm. B. Isaacs, Grand Commander; 10, out of 12, commanderies, represented; session, one day.

The Grand Commander submitted the following decisions:

Can a Templar hold his membership if he is non-affiliated with a Chapter and Blue Lodge?

Answer—In Proceedings 1863, page 5, you will find the following:

"Resolved, That it is not in accordance with our duty to the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter to allow a non-affiliated Mason to join a Commandery and continue membership during non-affiliation in those bodies."

Has a Commander the right to allow a non-affiliated Templar to visit his Command?

Answer—The Eminent Commander has the right to admit a non-affiliate to visit his Command, no member thereof objecting.

He devotes a large part of his address to a discussion of the circumstances attending the declination of Virginia Templars to attend the Triennial Conclave at New Orleans, in response to the invitation from this Grand Commandery. He presents *in extenso* his correspondence with Grand Commander Hornor concerning the matter, and rather takes him to task for the stand he

took relative to the vexed and vexatious subject of uniform. We all regretted the existence of circumstances which deprived us of the pleasure of greeting the Virginia Commanderies. We think the correspondence as published clearly indicates the purpose of our Grand Commander—while obeying his idea of the law from an imperative sense of duty, to do so in a true spirit of Knightly courtesy. We wish that no questions had been asked!

His position was a painful one, but we do not think that he was responsible for that—our hospitality was gladly offered, and its rites would have been paid with hearty pleasure. In discussing this matter, Grand Commander Isaacs says that Grand Master Fellows presided in our Grand Commandery when a resolution was adopted permitting Knights from the country to visit the Grand Conclave without regulation uniform. He is in error. Grand Master Fellows did not preside during the session. The country Knights referred to were members of a newly organized commandery, located in the interior of the State, out of the reach of railways, and not then fully equipped. Several of our distinguished frater's observations are open to criticism, and admit of a ready reply; but we have no fancy for such a discussion. Louisiana Knighthood entertains the liveliest regard for the Templars of Virginia, and will be glad to manifest it, whenever and wherever there is opportunity to do so.

The report on correspondence was again presented by Sir James A. Scott. Concerning Grand Master Fellows's decision of 1874, in reference to membership of Lodge and Chapter as a qualification for candidates for the Orders, Sir Knight Scott says, under the head of Louisiana, that—

We notice a communication from the Grand Master to the Grand Commander, in reply to a question from the latter, which struck us with surprise. Not being conversant with the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, we were ignorant of the fact that that instrument "did not require a candidate for the orders of Knighthood to be a member of either Lodge or Chapter, so no such requirement is necessary to hold membership or for eligibility to office in his Commandery." All we have to say is, that those who have the charge of that instrument should amend it at once, for we do not hesitate to say that we would as soon think of voting for a woman to be "initiated, passed and raised" in the Blue Lodge, as we would vote for a candidate to receive the Orders of Knighthood, who was not an affiliated Master Mason and Royal Arch Mason, Royal and Select Master included. We believe the Blue Lodge to be the "corner-stone," and we will not permit any one to enter our fold who does not pass through that door.

He says: "We have never seen or heard of the (Louisiana) Proceedings of 1873." The Virginia reporter must be clairvoyant. On page 80, of the Virginia Proceedings for 1873, he will see his review of our transactions for that year.

Of Sir Knight Hornor's last report, and of the writer thereof, he remarks:

The report on correspondence reviews the Proceedings of twenty-six Commanderies, and it is unnecessary to say that, being the production of Right Eminent Sir Joseph P. Hornor, it displays ability, industry and courtesy; Virginia is kindly noticed. He takes a feeling farewell of the reporting corps, of which he was a bright and shining light, and we beg to wish him great success in the discharge of the duties of the humbler sphere in which

he new moves. Right Eminent Joseph P. Horner was elected (was this intended as promotion) Grand Commander.

We regret that we cannot spare room for quotations from this report. It is genial, judicious and perspicuous. Sir James closes with P. P. C., we are very sorry to notice. Here is his farewell :

Our Grand Commander has promised that at the Annual Assembly about to be held, he will relieve us (the writer) from the duties of the position we now occupy, and in parting from our colleagues of the "reportorial corps," we must again thank them for the repeated evidences of their good will for this Grand Body. In the Proceedings just reviewed, she is most kindly referred to, and the address of our Grand Commander at the Assembly in Norfolk and the Annual Assembly in Richmond, in a majority of instances copied entire, and while they differ from him in many of his opinions, yet they do so with great courtesy. For their kindness to ourselves we are more than thankful, and we beg each one of them to reserve one little spot in their memories, just large enough to contain pleasant recollections of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Commandery of Virginia for this year. If in Knightly courtesy we have omitted anything, we regret it; if we have offended, we repent.

Forgive, forget, we are wisely told,
Is held a maxim good and old,
But half the maxim is bet'er yet,
Then oh, forgive, but don't forget!

Sir William B. Isaacs, Richmond (re-elected), Grand Commander; Sir. John Dove, Richmond (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

WISCONSIN.

Fifteenth annual conclave at Milwaukie, 21st January, 1874; Sir A. V. H. Carpenter, Grand Commander; 10 commanderies—all—represented; session, three days.

An exceptionally good address was delivered by the Grand Commander. There is always, freshness and pith in Sir Knight Carpenter's writing, and he drops into wit as Silas Wegg did into poetry. This compliment must have been gratefully received by those to whom it refers:

Concerning Jaunesville Commandery I will cite Mark Twain's remark about Nazareth:—"It has the appearance of being precisely as Jesus left it."

Of General Order No. 3, he says:

There is not much doubt but that the principal cause of issuing the order in question by our Grand Master, was a tendency to coxcombry which had got such a start as to be alarming. And had it not been checked, there is no knowing how many *Bazaars* it would have taken to furnish the material for a first class *a-la-mode* Templar outfit for the meeting of the Grand Encampment at New Orleans. What with the Frenchy uniforms of the Major General's division, and the antiquated splendor of the *Hungarian Brigade*, or Italian Brigand, would be a stunning array of tinsel and glitter.

This has met a temporary check, at least, by the firm, manly and consistent order of the Grand Master, forbidding any but regulation dress and equipments to appear in the ranks at parade. Indeed there was no alternative but to throttle the insane tendency, or allow the provisions of the constitution to become a dead letter, and the order become the laughing stock of all sensible people. Now, if the Grand Encampment does not sustain the order of the Grand Master in the premises, good bye, poor imbecile;

"Come view the ground where you must shortly lie."

Here is something good:

When human institutions get their growth, they go to seed and pass on out of sight. I should be sorry to think that the man is yet born or ever will be, who will witness the full growth of Masonry and the complete maturity of all of its powers; for when that time comes, if ever in this world, that man's children will witness its decline and evanescence, and the grandchildren will read its epitaph. It has been the endeavor to awaken Masons to the consciousness that Masonry is not a venerable, fossilized institution, venerable because fossilized. The generic principles of Masonry are immutable as the laws of Providence. It is only the phenomenon that changes; that is constantly undergoing revision, and that because of our increase in knowledge of the truth. Truth never changes, but man is constantly discovering more of it. And what shall be discovered to-morrow will so change the aspect of what is known to-day, that it will seem like an entirely different object than it now appears to be, perhaps. Still it is the same, only seen from a different point. This shows the necessity of waiting till the whole evidence is in, all sides seen, before rendering the verdict. Those who regard the matter as done up, finished, are the greatest stumbling blocks to the Order. Live men will shun that in which there is no chance for "betterments." Those who are to gain and hold the lead in human affairs are the ones who cut loose from ancient moorings and sail out of sight of landmarks, guiding their craft by the polarity of the compass, keeping their own reckoning. The time is at hand when superficial matters, who, having learned the difference between a Lodge and a town meeting, feel themselves privileged to be the oracles of the order, and prate with solemn earnestness, "what Masonry was, Masonry is," and similar platitudes, in answer to all the urgency for a revision of our *modus operandi*, should go to the rear.

Masonry is, to what Masonry was, as the finest specimen of manhood in this Grand Body, physically and intellectually, is, to his primal ancestor in the Darwinian scale.

We wish we could transfer *all* of the eleven pages of his valedictory.

The following resolution was adopted by the Grand Commandery:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Grand Commandery of this State, that General Order No. 3 of the M. E. Grand Master of Knights Templar is eminently just and pertinent to the circumstances of the case; that it is an opinion conformable to the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, and should be unhesitatingly obeyed by all Sir Knights, and endorsed by the Grand Encampment.

The correspondence review is presented by Sir Jno. W. Woodhull, and it is a good one.

Under the head of Iowa, in noticing that part of the Grand Commander's address, referring to the evils of intemperance, he remarks, with our full approval:

After reading so many exhortations by the different Grand Commanders (our own not excepted) upon the subject of intemperance, we are inclined to the belief that very much of what is said by our eminent fratres is drawn from, and has its foundation in imagination, rather than from any actual evil which exists in this or any other jurisdiction. Our observation, though limited, would lead us to believe that there is not a body of men in our country, who are as temperate as those whose names appear upon the rolls of the several commanderies.

Sir Emmons Taylor, Portage City, Grand Commander; Sir John W. Woodhull, Berlin, Grand Recorder.

Sixteenth annual conclave at Milwaukie, October 6, 1874; Sir C. P. Whitford, Deputy and acting Grand Commander; 10 commanderies, out of 12, represented; session, two days.

The address of the Acting Grand Commander commences with the announcement of the death of the Grand Commander.

The shadow of a great grief rests upon us as we assemble at this our Sixteenth Annual Conclave, and the vacant chair and sombre emblems of mourning, sadly remind us that we shall never, on this side the river, be again cheered by the presence of our beloved Commander.

For the first time in the history of our Grand Commandery, death has claimed our chief officer, and it becomes us as true and faithful Sir Knights, to invoke the blessing of Him who alone can give consolation in this our hour of affliction. Let us implore His guidance and assistance in our deliberations, so that everything we may attempt to do on this occasion may be done in a manner becoming true Christian Knights.

On Monday, the 13th day of April, 1874, R. E. Sir Emmons Taylor, Grand Commander of this Grand Commandery, died at his residence in Portage City, and on the 16th of the same month, his body was consigned to the bosom of our mother earth in the presence of a large concourse of mourning friends.

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He was initiated, passed and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in 1855, in Granville Lodge, No. 55, Granville, New York.

He received the several preparatory degrees and was exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch Mason in Fort Winnebago Chapter, No. 14, Wisconsin.

He received the orders of Knighthood in Fort Winnebago Commandery, No. 4, (at that time U. D.) in 1861, and was elected and installed its first Prelate, subsequently its Generalissimo, and finally its Commander. In the latter office he served during the years 1868, 1871 and 1872, and by his ability and energy contributed much towards elevating that commandery to the high rank it has held.

In 1866 and '67 he was Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Commandery, and in 1866 was elected Grand Junior Warden; in 1871 was Deputy Grand Commander, which office he held by the suffrage of this Grand Body for three successive years, and at our last Annual Conclave was elected and installed Grand Commander.

In February, 1868, he received the Degrees of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in Wisconsin Consistory, No. 1, and at the meeting of the Supreme Council, held at Chicago, Illinois, on the 13th day of November, 1873, he received the 33°

The eulogy of our deceased Commander is best written in the hearts of those who were privileged to know him most intimately. Faithful in all the relations of life, he graced every position in which he was placed, and discharged each and every duty with a fidelity and ability seldom equalled.

He has left upon the page of the Masonic history of this State, a bright record, which will ever grow brighter in the hearts of the fraternity.

Sir Knight Emmons occupied a most distinguished position as a member of the legal profession. 35 pages of the appendix of these Proceedings are occupied by a report of the action taken, and eulogies delivered, by the Bench and Bar of the State, upon the formal announcement of his death. Seldom have similar proceedings manifested more of affectionate regret and sincere respect.

The death of Past Deputy Grand Commander Sir Erastus Lewis, on September 17, 1874, was also announced. He was a Masonic veteran, one of the

petitioners for the formation of the Grand Commandery, and its first Deputy Grand Commander, having occupied that post for five successive years. He died universally respected.

Jewels were presented to Past Grand Recorder Palmer and Past Grand Commander Carpenter.

We notice the following in the Constitution of the Grand Commandery :

"And in case any member of any Commandery in this jurisdiction shall demit from Lodge or Chapter, and remain unaffiliated over one year without making application for a re-affiliation in some Lodge or Chapter, he shall be stricken from the roll of his Commandery, and remain in the status of a non-affiliated Knight Templar, until he shall have made all due effort to become again affiliated; and in case any Sir Knight shall be suspended or expelled by his Lodge or Chapter, he shall *ipso facto* be suspended or expelled in his Commandery, upon official notice that such sentence has been pronounced."

Again the correspondence report comes from Sir Jno. W. Woodhull.

Of Templar Knighthood in the South, he says, under the head of Georgia :

We hope and trust the time is not far distant, when our fratres of the South will be relieved from the succession of calamities, which has been so detrimental to their temporal welfare. It is a fact worthy of notice, that amid all their trials, the Eminent Sir Knights of those jurisdictions have stood firmly by the principles of our beloved Order, and maintained their position among the more favored jurisdictions. Notwithstanding the difficulties they have been obliged to encounter, the Order in those Grand jurisdictions is in a flourishing and prosperous condition. This speaks volumes for the patience, the endurance, the noble motives, and pure desires of the valiant Knights, who rally around the banner of Templarism in those jurisdictions.

After a full measure of compliment to Sir Knight Hornor for his last report, he remarks :

In concluding his very flattering review of Wisconsin, he says : "We are just in receipt of the proceedings of Wisconsin, for 1874, and with a view to doing it full justice, postpone its consideration until our *next report*." Further on he says, "we bid farewell to the Templar reporting corps." When, Sir Hornor, will you make that *next report*? There is nothing fair in such conduct. We shall hold you responsible for the review of Wisconsin's report, for 1874.

This is rather hard upon Sir Joseph, and though we have not consulted him on the subject, and notwithstanding he is generosity itself, we doubt very much whether he would cheerfully stand sponsor for all the faults and imperfections of our first report. Sir Joseph is responsible for enough now, though he certainly is accountable for our holding this reportorial quill.

Sir Carlos P. Whitford, Beloit, Grand Commander; Sir Jno. W. Woodhull, Berlin, (re-elected,) Grand Recorder.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Triennial Conclave, at New Orleans, December 1, 1874; Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, M. E. Grand Master.

The Grand Master communicated a large number of decisions rendered during his three years of service. They were approved by the Grand Encampment. We transfer to these pages some of those of most interest and importance to the Knights of this jurisdiction.

A Quorum not Voting in a Commandery:—"At the election in one of our Commanderies, there being but nine Sir Knights present, upon the first ballot, A, for Eminent Commander, had three votes, B, three votes, and three votes were blank. A second ballot was ordered, when A had four votes, and none others were cast. The Eminent Commander declared A elected. A Sir Knight protested. Was A elected by the votes cast?" This question was answered in the affirmative. "There should be a majority of all the votes cast in order to elect; while four is not a majority of nine it is of the number voting."

Physical Qualifications:—To a request for permission to confer the Orders on a candidate whose physical condition was considered imperfect, answer was sent that "if every Sir Knight in the Commandery is satisfied in his own mind, under his obligation as a Templar, that the companion has the necessary qualifications for the Orders, you can take the responsibility, and the Grand Master will only act on complaint being made. He can only decide when informed fully and particularly of the nature and extent of the physical disability. The requirement of absolute physical perfection has never been believed in by the Grand Master as necessary to the initiation or advancement of candidates in Masonry. If the candidate for the degrees in Masonry, or the Orders in Knight-hood, can give all the necessary signs and go through all the usual ceremonies, but not otherwise, you can proceed with the work, but of this you and those acting with you must be the judges."

Should an Eminent Commander be a Grand Commander?—The question was asked "Can an Eminent Commander of a subordinate Commandery be elected and exercise the authority of a Grand Commander at the same time? This was answered without hesitation, "there is no law to the contrary and no impropriety, notwithstanding the opinion of the previous Grand Master (p. 81 of Proc. of 1871). Nothing short of an express Statute on the subject should influence the members of a Grand Commandery in the choice of its officers, and there is no other limitation and should be no other than that of membership. Until the *Grand Encampment* shall legislate, there can be no such limitation in the right of choice, nor, when chosen, in the exercise of the functions of both offices, if one be held in the subordinate body at the time of the election in the Grand Body. While it might not always be considered in good taste for one holding the position of Grand Commander to accept an office in a subordinate Commandery, yet there is nothing incompatible for an Eminent Commander to be elected Grand Commander and still hold his position in his Commandery and exercise the functions of his office in both capacities, whenever occasion should call for it."

Suspension in a Lodge for non-payment of Dues:—The intention as to the meaning of the word "suspension" in the report on page 70 of the proceedings of the Grand Encampment of 1868, was to have the word apply to every case of suspension possible. We can hold no Masonic communication with one under sentence of expulsion or suspension. If the non-payment of dues is not a Masonic offence generally, or in any particular case, the brother was wrongfully suspended, but yet we cannot remedy the evil except through the Lodge in securing his re-instatement. All will agree that poverty itself is no crime, and any Lodge which may have suspended a brother for non-payment of dues, knowing that such non-payment was from inability through poverty to pay, deserves suspension itself, which a Grand Master would be justified in doing, reporting the case to the Grand Lodge for a revocation of its charter. But the willful withholding of money, due the Lodge in the shape of dues, having the means of payment, may be a Masonic offence and deserve suspension. The remedy must be sought in the Lodge or Chapter.

Striking from the roll, however, for the non-payment of dues, without a regular trial upon charges preferred for a Masonic offence, and in which all the proceedings are bad, including the finding guilty and regular sentence, is not suspension, nor can such a brother be said to be under sentence of expul-

sion or suspension, nor is his standing in the Commandery at all affected. He is not deprived by such a striking from the roll of any of the rights of a Mason, but only deprived of the rights and privileges which pertain to him as a member of that Lodge.

That as the Constitution of the Grand Encampment does not require a candidate for the Orders of Knighthood to be a member either of a Lodge or Chapter, so no such requirement is necessary to hold membership, or for eligibility to office in his Commandery. That while suspension or expulsion from his Lodge or Chapter, deprives a Knight of all rights and privileges in his Commandery, and of all intercourse with the members of the Order, yet it is such action only that will thus deprive a Knight of his rights and privileges as such. That the mere striking the name of a Knight from the roll of his Lodge or Chapter is not an equivalent to such suspension or expulsion, and that unless his name shall be stricken from the roll because of suspension or expulsion, his standing in his Commandery and the Order is in no wise effected. The striking from the roll is mere proof of the fact that the Knight is no longer a member, and this may have been done by reason of death, demit or any other cause, and it is only when it shall have been done by reason of a previous suspension or expulsion, after due trial, that such striking from the roll entails any disability upon the Sir Knight.

Status of Unaffiliated Sir Knights:—In answer to the inquiry, "What constitutes a Knight Templar in regular standing, and does non-affiliation deprive a Sir Knight of the honors of Knighthood while living, or of funeral honors when dead?" it was replied, "There is nothing in the Constitution or edicts of the Grand Encampment upon the subject of non-affiliation. The general principle is, that every Sir Knight will, in the discharge of his knightly vows, be connected with some Commandery. He can hardly perform his duty properly otherwise, especially if he lives within forty miles of a Commandery. There is, however, no irregularity or want of standing attached to non-affiliation by express enactment, unless it be by some edict or statute of the Grand Commandery. If there be no regulation of the Grand Commandery, the unaffiliated Sir Knight may have the right to request, but not to demand, the honors of Knighthood while living, or the funeral honors when he should die, and the Commandery has the right to grant or refuse the request, without the breach of knightly duty."

26—Assessments for Social Entertainments:—A Commandery having assessed its members by the expenses of a social entertainment, it was held that it could not legally assess a member who did not participate in it, and that any action in the way of punishment for the non-payment of the assessment thus made would be likewise illegal and improper.

Votes in a Grand Commandery:—A member of a Grand Commandery can have but one vote, no matter in how many of the different capacities he might appear as officer or Past officer, and having but one vote himself, he cannot vote as a Past Commander and at the same time cast a vote through a proxy. That the right to vote in a Grand Commandery is an individual right and can be exercised but once on the same question by the same individual.

Summons:—A summons should not be used except on the most urgent occasions. If the direction to summons is found in the By-laws, they must be obeyed, but there is no fundamental law requiring the By-laws to have any provision on the subject at all. When frequently used the summons becomes a notice merely, and the obligation to obey, a dead letter. The necessity for a summons should be left in every case to the exigencies of the occasion.

Public Devotional Exercises:—The custom on the occasion of an annual Conclave of a Grand Commandery, of that body performing in public certain devotional exercises in a church is disapproved. Before the anti-Masonic excitement in 1826 to 1830, the custom was in many places to have these public displays and with the design as courtng public favor and of making the insti-

tuition popular. This practice prevailed in all branches of the Order. We know the sad result of too much popularity. Since the wide prevailing prejudice engendered by that anti-Masonic war has in a great measure ceased, the same mistaken desire for popularity has begun to crop out.

The first and only time of which there is any record of the Grand Encampment indulging in the custom was at Columbus, Ohio, in 1865. The Grand Prelate had prepared a ceremony, and on the assembling of the Grand Encampment, its adoption was attempted. This attempt was defeated, and we have hardly heard of Sir McMurdy, the Grand Prelate, since. The ceremony, however, without authority, was printed with the proceedings of that session.

Force of Unapproved Decisions of Grand Masters:—The decisions of Grand Masters which have not been approved by the Grand Encampment, and thereby become of the nature of edicts, are not authoritative and only entitled to such weight as are the opinions of other eminent Masons. They are not the highest authority, and when doubt exists, as must usually be the case when they stand unapproved, the Grand Master should be consulted.

Expelling and Re-instating by Lodges:—1st. The action of the Grand Lodge in re-instating an expelled member not restoring him to membership in his Lodge, did not restore him to membership in his Commandery. This can only be done by vote of the Commandery. The law is silent as to the vote required. It should be by a new petition and unanimous ballot.

2d. If the certificate of the fact of the expulsion or suspension cannot be obtained from the Lodge or Chapter, the fact of expulsion or suspension can be proved orally by any one cognizant of the fact, and entry made thereof on the minutes of the Commandery, and this should be done.

3d. The Commandery itself can suspend or expel only after regular trial.

4th. If the Lodge or Chapter itself removes the penalty and re-instates the member, it then requires a majority vote of the Commandery to replace the member upon its rolls, otherwise when the Commandery itself suspends or expels, or the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter reinstates.

The Use of Shoulder Straps and Crosses:—In reply to the question as to "who as Past Grand Officers are entitled to wear the Templar Cross?" it was replied: "That a strict construction would include every Past Grand Officer, and after a repeated and careful consideration of the subject, no other answer can be given. This is as to the Crosses, as directed in the edict of the Grand Encampment.

But another interpretation is to be given to the right of Past Officers to wear shoulder straps. They are to be worn only by those who, by virtue of the office which they have held, are, under the constitution, permanent members of the Grand Commandery or Grand Encampment, as the case may be. Who these permanent members, by virtue of their having held an office, are, is fixed by the Constitution, and these, of the Past Officers, are the only ones entitled to wear the shoulder straps.

A very valuable and interesting historical sketch of the rise and growth of the Order in this country, formed a part of the Grand Master's address. Its importance induces us to give it in full to our readers:

INCREASE AND PRESENT CONDITION OF THE ORDER.

When this Grand Encampment was organized (22d June, 1816), there were three State Grand Encampments: that of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, organized May 6th, 1805; of Pennsylvania and the jurisdiction thereunto belonging, organized February 16th, 1814, and of New York organized June 18th, 1814.

The first chartered Commanderies (Encampments) were St. John's, Providence, R. I., chartered October 7th, 1805; Boston, at Boston, Mass., chartered March 3d, 1806, and Newburyport, at Newburyport, Mass., chartered May 12th, 1806; all three by the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts

and Rhode Island. These were the first regular charters for Encampments of Knights Templar in this country, and in that jurisdiction was the beginning of the Order in an organized form, at least in the United States; the honor of which especially belongs to Sir Knight Thomas Smith Webb and his immediate associates.

The Grand Encampment at Philadelphia was formed by the delegates of five Encampments: No. 1. at Philadelphia; No. 2, at Pittsburgh; Rising Sun No. 1, at New York (now Columbia No. 1); Washington No. 1, at Wilmington, Del., and Maryland No. 1, at Baltimore, Md. "Charters of recognition" were issued by the Grand Body, thus formed, to these five Encampments, in May, 1814. Though Sir Knight Creigh says that on December 27th, 1812, Encampment No. 1, at Philadelphia, was formed by the union of Nos. 1 and 2, and which he says had then existed about sixteen years, yet these undoubtedly were organizations without any other authority or warrant than the will of the members, there being at that time no superior authority from which a warrant or charter could emanate.

Sir Knight Creigh says there were in 1814, in New York, four Encampments of Knights Templar, Rising Sun, No. 1, uniting with others in the formation of the Grand Encampment at Philadelphia; Ancient, No. 3, in New York; Temple, No. 2, at Albany, and Montgomery, No. 4, at Stillwater. These three last named united in the formation of the Grand Encampment of New York in 1814, and received charters from that Grand Body.

The Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island chartered Washington, No. 4, at Newport, Rhode Island, June 7th, 1814; the Grand Encampment at Philadelphia chartered Philadelphia, No. 2, March 27th, 1816, and the Grand Encampment of New York chartered Indivisible Friends, No. 1, at New Orleans, La., May 4, 1816. The foregoing is the origin of all the chartered Encampments of Knights Templar in the United States which had been in existence prior to June, 1816.

Thus, at the formation of the General Grand Encampment of the United States, on the 22d of June, 1816, there were in existence only the following chartered Commanderies (Encampments), namely:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Saint John's, (1) | Providence, R. I., | chartered Oct 7, 1805. |
| Boston, (2) | Boston, Mass., | " March 3, 1806. |
| Newburyport, | Newburyport, Mass., | " May 12, 1806. |
| Washington, | Newport, R. I., | " June 7, 1814. |
| Rising Sun, (4) | New York, N. Y., | " May 3, 1814. |
| Ancient, | New York, N. Y., | " June, 1814. |
| Temple, (5) | Albany, N. Y., | " June, 1814. |
| Montgomery, | Stillwater, N. Y., | " June, 1814. |
| Philadelphia, No. 1, | Philadelphia, Pa., | " May 2, 1814. |
| Pittsburgh, | Pittsburgh, Pa., | " May 2, 1814. |
| Maryland, (3) | Baltimore, Md., | " May 2, 1814. |
| Washington, | Wilmington, Del., | " May 17, 1814. |
| Philadelphia, No. 2, | Philadelphia, Pa., | " March 27, 1816. |
| Indivisible Friends, (6) | New Orleans, La., | " May 4, 1816. |

In all fourteen Commanderies (Encampments), with a probable membership of less than five hundred; six of which only have had a continuous existence since their organization, namely: St. John's, Boston, Maryland, Rising Sun, (now Columbia), Temple and Indivisible Friends; all others, and those created after them, having succumbed to the fell spirit of anti-Masonic fanaticism.

Evidently some of these Commanderies (Encampments), had been at work several years as voluntary associations, without regular charters, or without any organization, and under the pretended authority of the charter of a Lodge of Ancient Craft Masonry; that is no authority at all. We find in

Creigh's History that of the members in Philadelphia Encampment, No. 1, one had been knighted in February, 1794; another in July, 1794; another in 1795, and another in 1796; three others in 1800, one in 1806, and three in 1810. It could not, then, have been until 1810 that there could have been any regularly organized body of Knights Templar in Pennsylvania, nor until the 27th December, 1812, when, as Sir Creigh says, the Encampments Nos. 1 and 2 united and formed Encampment No. 1, at Philadelphia, or, as is more probable, the Sir Knights belonging to two Lodges united into an association by the name of Encampment No. 1, at Philadelphia, without charter from any superior source whatever. It was this organization that devised the "Pennsylvania Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, with the jurisdiction thereunto belonging."

The total number of Sir Knights in this Grand Body was, on the 22d June, 1816, 238 less the deaths, or 185 not including those belonging to Rising Sun, No. 1, at New York. There is no means at hand for determining the number in the eight Encampments, (nine, including the one at New Orleans), which came under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Encampment at the time of its formation, but the number could not much have exceeded 800. From this small beginning in June, 1816, say nine Encampments and 300 Knights within its jurisdiction, and five Encampments and 185 Knights outside, south of New York, has sprung, after passing through years of the gloom and persecution of anti-Masonry, the goodly array of 45,000 Sir Knights, which now owe allegiance to this Grand Encampment. This increase, however, has taken place only during a small portion of the period of fifty-eight and one-half years which have elapsed since the organization of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States.

To recapitulate: In 1805 the Templars of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, under the lead of Thos. Smith Webb, formed the first regular organization of the Order in the United States, with its three subordinates. This organization has never been dormant during its whole existence.

In February, 1814, the Grand Encampment at Philadelphia was formed, with five subordinates. This remained independent of the Grand Encampment, and ceased to exist in 1824, two of its subordinates, Rising Sun, now Columbia, of New York and Maryland, at Baltimore, alone surviving.

In June, 1814, the Grand Encampment of New York was formed, with three subordinates. This organization has, likewise, never been dormant a single year since its organization.

In June, 1816, this Grand Encampment was created by the delegates of the two Grand Encampments of Massachusetts and Rhode Island and New York, each at that time having four subordinates.

In 1819, at the time of the second session of the Grand Encampment, there had been no apparent change.

On the 24th March, 1816, an organization of Knights Templar, but without any charter, was formed at Richmond, Va., called St. John's Rising Star Encampment of Virginia, and sometimes the Grand Encampment of Virginia. There was no organization of Knights Templar in Virginia, under a charter, until April 10th, 1823, when the Encampment at Richmond took a charter from the General Grand Encampment, nor a Grand Body, until November 23d, 1823, when certain Knights known as the Winchester Lodge Encampment, self-created, and two others of its creation, organized a Grand Encampment, which was again reorganized and recognized by the Grand Encampment as the Grand Encampment of Virginia, November 22d, 1824. This Grand Encampment ceased to exist in 1833. A third Grand Encampment of Virginia, (the present Grand Body), was organized in 1845, and after considerable negotiation came under the General Grand Encampment in December, 1850.

In 1826, at the *Third Session*, eighteen new Encampments were reported as created, or recognized by the General Grand Encampment, making thus far

in all twenty Encampments, distributed as follows: Two in Ohio, two in Connecticut, three in Vermont, one in North Carolina, three in Virginia, one in Georgia, three in New Hampshire, one in the District of Columbia, three in South Carolina, and one in Kentucky. (To this add one in Louisiana as yet under the jurisdiction of New York). Out of these subordinates, Grand Encampments had been formed: In Vermont, in 1824; Virginia, in 1824; New Hampshire, in 1826, and reported as formed in South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia, but this could not have been as to the two latter, for each had only one Encampment.

There were at that time, then, six Grand Encampments, besides eight subordinates under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Encampment, and three other Encampments outside the jurisdiction, namely: One at Philadelphia, which became dormant in 1839; one at Baltimore, and one at New Orleans, under allegiance to New York. All these Grand Encampments, except the two originals, succumbed to the anti-Masonic excitement then about commencing, and their States remained without Grand Bodies of Knights Templar for many years, there not being one in South Carolina even to this day.

In 1829—*Fourth Triennial Session*—Virginia had dropped out, and the Grand Encampment of Connecticut, (organized in 1827), added to the representation.

From 1832 to 1844 no progress was made. The fierce anti-Masonic war raged with all its bitter prejudice and hate during the whole period. There was a large decrease in members. All the Grand Commanderies except two, those of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and of New York, had ceased to exist. There was no material increase of any moment. In 1844 the representation in the General Grand Encampment was limited to the two original members: to Connecticut, revived, after lying dormant for years, and to Ohio, organized in 1843. There were only eight Encampments immediately subordinate to the General Grand Encampment: One each at New Orleans, Louisiana; Baltimore, Maryland; in Texas, Mississippi and Alabama; one at Wheeling, Va., and two in Kentucky. The Order, with Freemasonry, had just begun to revive. Twenty-eight years had elapsed from the formation in 1816 of the General Grand Encampment, by two Grand Encampments having eight subordinates and some three hundred members, more or less, under its jurisdiction. Now the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island had only three Encampments, Connecticut had three, New York ten, and Ohio seven; in all thirty-one (31) Encampments, with a membership not exceeding one thousand.

In 1847 there were still the four Grand Encampments—the original two, and Connecticut and Ohio; thirteen subordinates (instead of eight) under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Encampment, including five under dispensation, namely: one each in Kentucky, Maine, Illinois, Tennessee and Missouri.

The new growth of the Order, however had begun, and from this time, September, 1847, it has been rapid, and from this time we may date the first era of our real prosperity. The Grand Encampment had then been in existence thirty-one years, had four Grand Bodies as its constituents; all others had ceased to exist.

In 1850, at the *Eleventh Triennial Session*, there were the same representatives as in 1844 and 1847, with the Grand Encampment of Kentucky added, and with twenty-seven subordinate Encampment of immediate jurisdiction.

In 1853, at the *Twelfth Triennial Session*, the Grand Encampment of Vermont had been re-organized, that of Virginia (organized independently in

1845), recognized in 1850, and Maine formed, eight Grand Encampments for first time. Two of these in existence in 1826, in the States of New Hampshire and South Carolina were wanting. There were thirty-nine Subordinate Encampments, furnishing the nucleus for the formation of seven more Grand Encampments, namely, those of Pennsylvania, Indiana, Texas, California, Illinois, Michigan and Mississippi.

In 1856, there were eleven Grand Commanderies, those of Pennsylvania, Indiana and Texas, having been formed in the interim, the whole with ninety-five Subordinate Commanderies and a membership of 2744, under their jurisdiction, and forty-two Commanderies under the immediate jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment with a membership of 1866, and which, with an estimate of 600 not returned, gives a total of 187 Commanderies, and a membership of 4710.

In 1859, at the close of the twelve years' administration of Past Grand Master Hubbard, there were fifteen Grand Commanderies, with 187 Subordinates and a membership of 5748. Grand Commanderies had been formed in Michigan, Illinois, Mississippi and California. There were forty-four Subordinate Commanderies with a membership of 1601 under the immediate jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, or a total of 181 Commanderies and a membership of 8000, allowing for those not returned. Out of these forty-four Subordinate Commanderies there was formed, during the next year, the Grand Commanderies of New Hampshire, Wisconsin, Tennessee, New Jersey, Georgia, Missouri and Alabama.

In 1862 there were twenty-two Grand Commanderies and sixteen Commanderies subordinate to the Grand Encampment. Number of Templars not known.

In 1865 there were twenty-four Grand Commanderies, Louisiana and Iowa having been formed, since the last Grand Conclave, and eleven Subordinates under the Grand Encampment.

In 1868 the table of statistics shows a constituency of twenty-five Grand Commanderies, (Minnesota having been organized in October, 1865), with 319 Subordinates and a membership of over 20,000. There were, besides, twenty Commanderies subordinate to the Grand Encampment.

In 1871, at the last Triennial Session, Grand Commanderies had been formed in Kansas and Maryland, making the number twenty-seven with a membership of 29,862, with twenty-two Commanderies immediately subordinate to the Grand Encampment with a supposed membership of over 400, showing in round numbers, adding for the increase from the date of the latest returns up to the date of meeting, a total membership of about 31,000 Knights Templar.

Returns for this Triennial Conclave show more than a corresponding increase in membership, or a total of nearly 45,000, with three new Grand Commanderies formed, namely: Nebraska, Arkansas and West Virginia, making at this time thirty (30) Grand Commanderies, with 513 Subordinate Commanderies. There are now, besides, twenty Commanderies under the immediate jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment with a membership of 1404, making in all thirty Grand Commanderies, and 533 Subordinate Commanderies with a membership at this time, 1st December, 1874, allowing for the natural increase from date of last returns, a total of 45,000 Knights Templar in the United States. The Subordinate Commanderies under our immediate jurisdiction are, one in Delaware, four in District of Columbia, one in North Carolina, one in South Carolina, three in Florida, one in New Mexico, one in Utah, three in Colorado, two in Montana, one in Nevada, one in Sandwich Islands, and one in Wyoming; total, twenty Commanderies—six of them under dispensation, as shown by the following table of Grand Commanderies, arranged according to the date of their organization, date of last returns, etc.

Table of Returns of Grand Commanderies, etc.

| No. OF | GRAND COMMANDERY. | DATE OF ORGANIZATION. | DATE OF LAST RETURNS. | No. OF COM-MANDERIES. | No. MEM-BERS. |
|------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Mass. & Rhode Island | May 6, 1805 ... | Nov'r 7, 1874 .. | 39 | 5,408 |
| 2 | New York, N. Y. | June 18, 1814.. | Nov'r 7, 1874 .. | 52 | 6,951 |
| 3 | Connecticut..... | May 13, 1841, (1827) | March 17, 1874 | 10 | 1,330 |
| 4 | Ohio | Oct'r 23, 1843.. | Sept'r 9, 1874 .. | 27 | 2,325 |
| 5 | Virginia..... | Dec'r 11, 1845, (1823) (1824) | Dec'r 11, 1873.. | 15 | 676 |
| 6 | Kentucky | Oct'r 5, 1847... .. | July 9, 1874.... | 15 | 898 |
| 7 | Vermont..... | Aug'st 14, 1851, (1824) | June 9, 1874 ... | 9 | 556 |
| 8 | Maine..... | May 5, 1852.... | May 6, 1874 ... | 11 | 1,373 |
| 9 | Pennsylvania..... | April 12, 1854 | May 12, 1874... | 49 | 5,131 |
| 10 | Indiana..... | May 16, 1854.... | April 28, 1874.. | 23 | 1,546 |
| 11 | Texas..... | Jan'y 19, 1855. | June 3, 1874.... | 9 | 382 |
| 12 | Michigan..... | Jan'y 15, 1857. | June 2, 1874.... | 30 | 2,241 |
| 13 | Mississippi..... | Jan'y 22, 1857. | May 26, 1874.... | 14 | 413 |
| 14 | Illinois..... | Oct'r 27, 1857.. | Nov'r 9, 1874 .. | 46 | 3,074 |
| 15 | California..... | Aug. 10, 1858.. | April, 1873..... | 10 | 542 |
| 16 | Tennessee | Oct'r 12, 1859.. | May 14, 1874.... | 14 | 879 |
| 17 | Wisconsin..... | Oct'r 20, 1859.. | Jan'y 21, 1874.. | 11 | 786 |
| 18 | New Jersey..... | Feb'y 14, 1860. | Nov'r 7, 1874.. | 12 | 1,005 |
| 19 | Georgia..... | April 12, 1860.. | May 13, 1874.... | 8 | 365 |
| 20 | Missouri..... | May 22, 1860. | Oct'r 6, 1874 ... | 25 | 990 |
| 21 | New Hampshire..... | Aug. 22'60('26) | Sept'r 30, 1874 | 9 | 977 |
| 22 | Alabama..... | Dec'r 1, 1860.... | May 6, 1874.... | 10 | 264 |
| 23 | Louisiana..... | Feb'r 4, 1864.... | Feb'y 13, 1874.. | 4 | 328 |
| 24 | Iowa..... | June 6, 1864 ... | Oct'r, 1874..... | 23 | 1,096 |
| 25 | Minnesota | Oct'r 23, 1865.. | Nov'r 7, 1874.... | 10 | 534 |
| 26 | Kansas..... | Dec'r 29, 1868.. | May 13, 1874.... | 6 | 262 |
| 27 | Maryland..... | Jan'y 23, 1871 | May 11, 1874.... | 7 | 735 |
| 28 | Nebraska | Dec'r 28, 1871.. | Nov'r, 1873..... | 6 | 223 |
| 29 | Arkansas..... | March 25, 1872 | Dec'r, 1873..... | 4 | 212 |
| 30 | West Virginia..... | Feb'y 25, 1874. | Feb'r 25, 1874.. | 5 | 103 |
| - | Grand Encampment.... | June 22, 1816.. | Nov'r 1, 1874.. | 20 | 1,404 |
| Total..... | | | | 533 | 43,004 |

There have been three epochs in the early life of this Grand Encampment: the first of thirteen years from 1816 to 1829, under the Grand Mastership of our first chief, De Witt Clinton; the second includes the whole time of the anti-Masonic war from 1829 to 1847, a period of eighteen years, under the Grand Mastership of Jonathan Nye for six years, of James M. Allen for nine years, of Archibald Bull for three years, during which all except the two original Grand Encampments had ceased to exist, and their constituents reduced to two Encampments each, and the membership to a mere handful of the faithful; and the third epoch of twelve years, from 1847 to 1859, under Grand Master Hubbard, the period of our new birth and healthy re-organization. To this we may now add the fourth epoch of fifteen years, from 1859 to 1874, a period of rapid, and as is hoped, of healthy growth.

During this last period, the triennial increase in members has been to the extent of about one-third during each term of Past Grand Master French, and one-half or fifty per cent. during each of the terms of his predecessors. In

perfection in the knowledge of Templar law and the principles lying at the foundation of the Order, in perfection in the work and drill, and in everything which pertains to its welfare and future stability, the proportionate increase has been about the same.

A digest of Templar law was adopted by the Grand Encampment.

The subject of uniform elicited considerable discussion, which was characterized by knightly courtesy.

The Grand Encampment, in accordance with the report of the committee on the doings of Grand Officers, Sir Knight Carson, chairman, unanimously approved Order No. 3, as a correct interpretation of the law. The action of the Grand Master thereunder was also approved. The law of 1862, as interpreted by Order No. 3, was declared to be the law of the Grand Encampment. Grand Commanderies are instructed to direct its enforcement, except they consent that their subordinates now wearing the black uniform may continue to do so, and in those jurisdictions where the black uniform is thus authorized, other Commanderies can assume it, with the consent of the Grand Commandery.

The black uniform is still worn by some Commanderies in each of five jurisdictions, viz: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Virginia. One Commandery in the District of Columbia, under the immediate jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, has not yet adopted the regulation costume. As to all the other jurisdictions in the United States, the uniform prescribed in 1862 is the only one permissible.

Concerning this solution of a troublesome question, Sir Knight Mackey, an attached friend of the black costume, says, with true knightly feeling ["Voice of Masonry," Jan., 1875.]:

The friends of the black costume thus gained a greater victory than they had looked for. The wearers of the regulation uniform had yielded, with all the kindness of Knightly and Masonic courtesy, to the wishes of their brethren; peace and harmony were restored; this question, hitherto pregnant with so much angry feeling, was for ever settled, and in all probability an evil of the greatest magnitude was averted from the Grand Encampment and the Templar Order in the United States.

The next triennial will take place at Cleveland, Ohio.

Sir James H. Hopkins, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, Grand Master; Sir Theodore L. Parvin, Iowa City, Iowa, Grand Recorder.

The visit of the Templars to New Orleans was a delightful occasion for the Knights of this jurisdiction. We rejoiced to see our fratres from abroad, and were proud of them. We think their recollections of the Crescent City will ever be agreeable.

Courteously submitted,

WM. R. WHITAKER,

For the Committee.

Officers of Grand Commandery.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| SIR JOSEPH HENRY DEGRANGE..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander,</i> | <i>New Orleans.</i> |
| SIR MICHEL ELOI GIRARD..... | <i>V. E. D. Grand Commander,</i> | <i>Vermillionville.</i> |
| SIR BERRY RUSSELL..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo,</i> | <i>New Orleans.</i> |
| SIR HARVEY CREE..... | <i>E. Grand Captain General,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR JOHN CHAUNCEY CARPENTER..... | <i>E. Grand Prelate,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR JOHN WILLIAM MADDEN..... | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR SAMUEL ALSTON..... | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODD..... | <i>E. Grand Treasurer,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR GEORGE SOULE..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR EDWARD BAKER..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR ROBERT STRONG..... | <i>E. Grand Warder,</i> | <i>" "</i> |
| SIR RAYMOND STEPHEN BURK | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards,</i> | <i>" "</i> |

Annual Grand Conclave of 1876.

The next Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, will be held in Grand Lodge, Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Friday, February 18, 1876, A. O. 758.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Sirs WM. R. WHITAKER and A. HERO Jr.

TO GRAND RECORDERS.

I respectfully request the Grand Recorders of the various Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar to transmit to me, by separate mails, duplicate copies of their Proceedings, and the favor shall be reciprocated with due courtesy.

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

Drawer 321, Post Office, New Orleans.

"IN HOC SIGNO VINCES."



GRAND COMMANDERY

Knights Templar

Louisiana

1876.

"DEO DUCE, FERRO COMITANTE."

Freemasons. Louisiana. Knights Templars.
Grand Commandery.

PROCEEDINGS



AND

APPENDANT ORDERS,

OF THE

STATE OF LOUISIANA

AT ITS

Thirteenth Annual Conclave,

NEW ORLEANS, FEBRUARY 18th, A. D. 1876, A. O. 758.

Sir BERRY RUSSELL, - - - R. E. Grand Commander.

Sir E. E. ADAMS, - - - E. Grand Recorder.

NEW ORLEANS:


JOHN W. MADDEN, PRINT, 73 CAMP ST.,

1876.

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1876

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THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE
OF THE
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar
AND
APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

HE R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA,
assembled at its Sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall,
City of New Orleans, on Friday, February 18th, A. D. 1876,
A. O. 758, at 12 o'clock, M., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE.....R. E. GRAND COMMANDER.
" MICHEL E. GIRARD.....V. E. DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER.
" BERRY RUSSELL.....E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO.
" R. LAMBERT, P. G. C., as.....E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL.
" J. P. HORNOR, P. G. C., as.....E. GRAND PRELATE.
" JOHN W. MADDEN E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.
" SAMUEL ALSTON.....E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.
" SAM'L M. TODD.....E. GRAND TREASURER.
" GUSTAVUS SONTAG.....E. GRAND RECORDER.
" GEORGE SOULE.....E. GRAND STANDARD BEARER.
" EDWARD BAKER.....E. GRAND SWORD BEARER.
" ROBERT STRONG.....E. GRAND WARDEN.
" J. W. MAGUIRE. as.....E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT:

SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWSP. R. E. Grand Commander.
" SAMUEL M. TODD....." " " " "
" JOSEPH P. HORNOR....." " " " "
" JOHN A. STEVENSON....." " " " "
" RICHARD LAMBERT " " " " "

Sir JOSEPH H. DeGRANGE.....P. R. E. Grand Commander.
 " HUGH BREEN.....P. V. E. Deputy Grand Commander
 " WILLIAM R. WHITAKER....." " " "
 " JOHN H. CLARKE.....P. E. G. Generalissimo.
 " M. A. CALONGNE.P. E. Grand Captain General.
 " WM. L. STANFORD " " " "

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Sir SAMUEL MANNING TODDPennsylvania, New York,
 Kentucky, Georgia and California.
 Sir JOSEPH P. HORNOR.....Missouri, New Jersey, Mas-
 sachusetts and Rhode Island, Maryland and Iowa.
 Sir JOSEPH H. DeGRANGE.....Mississippi.
 " RICHARD LAMBERT.....Indiana and Texas.
 " GUSTAVUS SONTAGIllinois.
 " J. Q. A. FELLOWS.....Kansas, Minnesota, Ver-
 mont and Wisconsin.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN
 FORM.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following
 Sir Knights as a Committee on Credentials and Returns:

Sir GEORGE SOULE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1.
 " G. SONTAG, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2.
 " EDWARD BAKER, of Orleans Commandery No. 3.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns submitted the
 following report, which was read and adopted:

NEW ORLEANS, February 18th, 1876.

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana:

Your Committee on Credentials report the following Commanderies enti-
 tled to representation, and the following Sir Knights entitled to seats in
 this Grand Commandery, as legal Representatives:

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Sam'l Alston, E. C. (J. Olle, proxy.) Geo. Soulé, G. (E. M. Ivens, proxy.)
 W. F. Cleveland, C. G.

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

L. T. Murdock, E. C. C. W. Hotchkiss, G. G. H. Braughn, C. G.

GRAND COMMANDERY.

5

ORLEANS COMMANDERY NO. 3.

J. W. Madden, E. C. (J. S. Harris, proxy.)

E. E. Adams, G.

E. Baker, C. G.

GIRARD COMMANDERY NO. 4.

M. E. Girard, E. C. (J. H. Dorand, proxy.) C. Mayo, G. Jas. Ray, C. G.
(Jno. C. Gordy, proxy.)

Sir D. Hughes, proxy for Sir H. Cree, G. C. G.

G. SONTAG,
E. BAKER.
GEO. SOULE

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found represented, viz :

Indivisible Friends No. 1; Jacques de Molay No. 2; Orleans No. 3; Girard No. 4.

The R. E. Grand Commander, Sir Joseph H. DeGrange, then delivered the following

ADDRESS :

Sir Knights :

AGAIN we have assembled in Grand Conclave, for the purpose of deliberating over the affairs and condition of the Order of the Temple in this jurisdiction.

From the glad tidings and glowing words of praise that greets us from every State, the promise that I made when sending forth *l'envoi* from this jurisdiction to every true and courteous Knight throughout the land, was satisfactorily to all, kept by my worthy predecessor, R. E. Sir Joseph P. Horner. It truly fills us with joy to know that what little we did do, was so kindly appreciated, and our only regret was that we could do no more. The condition of the Order in this jurisdiction is fairly prosperous, and the several bodies in a satisfactory position. The morale greatly improved and I hope with the continued exertion and the laudable ambition of every Sir Knight duly exercised for the good of the Order, that it will continue so to improve. Whatever errors there may be should be eradicated, and that with the aid of pure and holy doctrines that are taught within our asylums, that we may attain the forward rank as christian men.

OBITUARY.

I have the sad duty of reporting officially the death of our most zealous and courteous Sir Knight, James B. Scot, Past Deputy Grand Commander, who died Sunday, February 6th, 1876. A worthy man, honored for his great

ability and love for the Order of Masonry and the Temple, by his Brethren, Companions and Brother Knights, he held the presiding offices of the different Bodies to which he was attached. Occupying for a number of years the position of Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of all the Grand Bodies in this State, by his skill in the art, his graceful pen, his profound knowledge in Masonry, he soon became known throughout all jurisdictions. For his many virtues, his great devotion to our institutions, he was truly beloved by all who knew him. The Order of the Temple has indeed lost a very dear and kind friend, and his demise will leave a great void in our ranks.

Suitable resolutions expressive of our regrets should be adopted at this conclave.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

I received and accepted on the 29th of April, 1875, the resignation of R. E. Sir Harmon G. Reynolds as Grand Representative of this Grand Commandery near the Grand Commandery of Illinois, offered on account of his removal from that jurisdiction, and signed a commission appointing in his stead, R. E. Sir W. M. Egan of Chicago.

On November 6, 1875, I received from R. E. Sir Jos. P. Hornor a communication informing me that he had received a commission as Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Iowa near this Grand Body. On presentation of which I recommend that he be received with the honors due his exalted rank.

24 JUNE, 1875.

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Grand Commandery at its last Grand Conclave, the requisite orders were issued for the celebration of St John the Baptist day, by a dress parade, review and the religious ceremonies of our Order. On my application to the Rector Rev'd W. E. Upton and the vestry, St. Paul's Church (Episcopal), corner of Camp and Gaiennie streets, was kindly placed at my disposal for that purpose and the religious exercises were conducted by our Grand Prelate, the Rev'd Sir Knight Herman C. Duncan, ably assisted, with music by the regular choir. These exercises were witnessed by a large assemblage of the finest families of the city; after which, the ceremonies of the day were closed with a dress parade and review on Coliseum Square. The appearance of the Sir Knights was alike creditable to themselves and to me, in number, and in manœuvres, and attracted no small amount of attention from the public on their march to and from the House of Worship. I would recommend that suitable acknowledgments be made to the vestry of St. Paul's church for the use of the church, to Mrs. E. A. Palfrey and the ladies and gentlemen composing the choir for their kindly assistance on that occasion, and to Sir Knight W. G. Coyle for his valuable aid.

The sermon preached on the occasion by the Rev'd Sir Knight Herman C.

Duncan was of such character and ability as to deserve special commendation, and I cheerfully recommend that it be published with our proceedings.

CAMP AT MISSISSIPPI CITY.

The success which attended the Field Encampment at Biloxi during 1874, induced me to hold a similar one at Mississippi City, on the Gulf shore from the 25th to 29th June, 1875, inclusive. After obtaining permission from the R. E. Grand Commander of Mississippi to establish ourselves within his jurisdiction, on the above dates, the Camp was formed with all the honors and named "Camp Fellows," in honor of the last Past Grand Master.

I regret exceedingly the absence of the Grand Commander of Mississippi and other Sir Knights of that jurisdiction. However, I was gratified to have had with us, E. Sir Alonzo L. Willoughby, of Mobile Commandery No. 2, of Mobile, Ala., with a detachment of Sir Knights from our neighborly city. The three Commanderies from this city were well represented. I am confident in asserting that it proved a success in all particulars, for not only did it bring together the Knights and seem to closer bind them, but served admirably in its object—that is a camp of instruction—for the entire routine generally applied to a military camp were complied with. Devotional exercises were held on Sunday, our Rev. Grand Prelate officiating, which was attended by the entire command; the knightly, gentlemanly bearing of the Sir Knights during the day, commended them to the special notice of the residents.

We were much indebted for great courtesies on that occasion to Sir Knights E. L. Dean and Densmore, and Officers of the Revenue Cutter, Lewis McLane.

To Sir Knights D. W. C. Peck, Quartermaster General, and assistant Sir W. R. Whitaker. P. D. G. C., I am indebted for valuable aid and assistance.

GRAND COMMANDERY, MISSISSIPPI.

On August 6th, 1875, and on January 19th, 1876, I received from R. E. Sir G. W. Cox, Grand Commander of Mississippi, communications asking permission in behalf of Rosalie Commandery No. 5, of Natchez, to receive the petitions, and if elected, to confer the orders on several companions residing in Tensas parish, which I cheerfully granted. I subsequently to August, 1875, received from him in behalf of the same Commandery, a communication asking a general permission or waiver to receive the petitions of, and confer the orders on the companions residing in the parishes of Concordia and Tensas, in this State, urging that the said companions residing so far from any established Commandery in Louisiana, would be deprived of the orders if they were not able to make application to some Commandery in Natchez, Mississippi, that place being nearer to their residences, that we would eventually reap the benefit, for the larger the num-

ber of companions residing within the territory named who take orders the sooner the establishment of a new Commandery. I replied that Article XXIX of the Code, Statute and Digest of Templar Laws, specially defines the boundaries of each jurisdiction, and the granting of a general waiver or permission would be a virtual abandonment of a certain amount of territory within this jurisdiction, which I did not think I had any right to dispose of. That each State was a special jurisdiction, whose limits were defined by its boundary lines, and I believed that no Grand Commander could extend or contract it, but that in order to enable the companions in those parishes to become attached to our Order, I would grant a special permission whenever an application was made, giving the name, and residence of the companion, and from what Lodge and Chapter he was a member of; but should he desire it, I would with pleasure present in his behalf to the Grand Commandery any petition he should make on that subject. I therefore present to you for your consideration the petition of the R. E. Grand Commander G. W. Cox, in behalf of Rosalie Commandery of Natchez, Mississippi, asking the privilege of receiving the petition of such companions as may reside in those parishes until such time as a Commandery may be established in or near said parishes, or for such period as this Grand Commandery may please to designate.

BY-LAWS SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES.

On May 5th, 1875, the by-laws of Orleans Commandery No. 3 having been submitted to me and being in form, I approved the same.

In December, 1875, the by-laws of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1 were also submitted to me for examination. I returned them unapproved as they contained the substance of a great many of the laws of the Grand Commandery, Grand Encampment and portions of the Ritual in their own verbiage.

By-laws of a subordinate Commandery should be short and explicit, and should contain only such matter as pertains to the immediate workings of its affairs. Nothing provided for, either in the ritual or the laws of the Grand Encampment or Grand Commandery, should be contained therein, but it is permissible to *quote* Templar laws, and when so doing the exact language should be used and the section or article so taken duly accredited.

There being no Committee on Templar Law in this jurisdiction, the Grand Commander, ipso facto, in his official capacity assumes the duties of that Committee, and on the adoption of any law or amendment to any by-law by any subordinate Commandery, it should be submitted for his approval before it has the color or effect of law.

SIX MONTHS CLAUSE.

From the number of persons totally unfitted to obtain admission into the Order, the qualifications of candidates should be increased rather than

be diminished. The clause in our by-laws which requires the applicant to be six months a Royal Arch should by all means be retained, and in addition thereto we should require a lapse of two years from the time of his becoming a Master Mason. That is, all applicants for the Orders should be two years a Master Mason and six months a Royal Arch. The first requisite is demanded by the priories in England. Extreme care should be taken in regard to the qualifications of a candidate. The mere fact of one possessing the above requirements should be in no way a guarantee to his admission. No one but those from their education, social position and conduct as Masons are entitled to obtain from the outer world the respect due, should be received. This would tend to elevate the Order in all of its purity. Our ties as Masons bind us in one common bond, and the fact of demanding additional requirements will tend to reflect additional lustre on the Masonic Fraternity. Our Order being conducted under its auspices, I would recommend that the Grand Commandery reaffirm its adherence to this particular clause, and that it should emphatically declare in solemn conclave *that there are no cases* requiring the dispensing of any of the formalities required by law. We are too prone to advancement and a declaration at this time may prove beneficial in all respects.

CAUCUSES.

There is an evil which has cropped out that requires the denunciation by this Grand Body, in order that it may be stopped in its incipency. Sir Knights in their zeal are prone to commit sad errors, and those errors can only be corrected by being brought to their notice. The evil complained of is one which almost every Grand Body has had to denounce. And that is, electioneering for offices and holding private meetings or caucuses in order to determine upon a plan of action and carry through *volens volens* the choice made.

The choice of those selected to guide the destinies of a Commandery, should be left free and unbiased to every Sir Knight. Proper men should be selected to fill stations, that they are capable and able to fill with dignity, ability and credit to their commandery, to the Order in general and to themselves. The holding of a caucus is fraught with evil and rather tends to degenerate our system than to regenerate it.—More fit for political bodies than our institution. Sir Knights are all apt to discover great wrongs, and in their laudable ambition, desire to eradicate it, but it should be done by proper means, through legitimate channels, and not by committing a still greater wrong. All acts of the bodies should be done by the free will expressed of its members, and a controlling power should not be engendered by this weed of evil growth, which is always injudicious and will always prove disastrous in the end. I have discountenanced and discouraged all such methods, and some declaration by this Grand Body is necessary under the circumstances.

BY-LAWS.

My experience as Grand Commander has demonstrated the necessity, that the laws of the Grand Commandery should be remodelled, compiled, and necessary additions made thereto. There are many clauses now in it in direct conflict with the laws of the Grand Encampment, and we lack the requisite number giving full information. We have no act bearing upon trials and are dependent altogether upon the laws of the Grand Lodge upon that subject. I think it proper, therefore, to recommend to the Grand Commandery to refer to a special committee the revision of the Laws, and republishing of the same when the work is completed, and append the Code, Statutes and Digest of Templar laws as adopted by the Grand Encampment of the United States, to the printed proceedings; this last edition can be obtained from the publishers at a very reasonable charge, and will prove of much interest and benefit to the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction for their guidance.

SPECIAL CONCLAVE OF THE UNITED STATES.

I have nothing to report in reference to the special Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States to be held in Philadelphia in 1876, not having received any notice or document pertaining to it.

GRAND DRILL MASTER.

Feeling the necessity of having some one Sir Knight thoroughly conversant with the drill, so that whenever it was deemed proper that all or either of the Commanderies should be brought forward before the public, that preparatory drills should be had so that they would show credibly to themselves and the Order they represented, I created the office of "Grand Drill Master" and appointed E. Sir W. L. Stanford, P. G. C. G., to the same. Since its creation his ability has added no little aid to the success of the bodies in this city in their displays. I am of the opinion that office should be continued.

GRAND PRELATE.

On the 3d of June, 1875, I appointed the Rev'd Sir Knight Herman C. Duncan, Grand Prelate, vice the Rev'd Sir Knight J. C. Carpenter removed from this jurisdiction and permanently taking his abode in Texas.

On the 22d January, 1876, I appointed the Rev'd Sir Knight R. S. Trippett, Grand Prelate, vice the Rev'd Sir Knight Herman C. Duncan, who had tendered his resignation on account of removal from this State to Chicago, Illinois. I submit for your approval both appointments.

EMERGENT COMMANDERY.

On the 7th of November, 1875, I granted to a committee, consisting of E. Sir John W. Madden, of Orleans Commandery No. 3, Alf. H. Isaacson, of Indivisible Friends No. 1, and Geo. H. Braughn, of Jacques de Molay No. 2,

in behalf of various Sir Knights of the three Commanderies, my consent that they take the necessary steps to organize temporary for the purpose of eventually forming an Emergent Commandery to visit Philadelphia during the Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, but as nothing definite has been received by me from those in authority upon that subject the committee have as yet done nothing towards organization.

RECEPTION.

On the 31st of January, 1876, on application, I granted to Indivisible Friends No. 1, Jacques de Molay No. 2 and Orleans No. 3, Commanderies in this city, permission to give an entertainment on (this) evening of Friday, 18th, in order to properly inaugurate the Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State. The alacrity shown in the display by the Sir Knights and their appearance was truly commendable. I am much indebted to the Sir Knight A. Smith, of Jacques de Molay Commandery, for gratuitous use of carriages for the Grand Commandery, and to Major Longley and E. Prophet, of the St. James Hotel, for courtesies.

MOBILE.

I received very many courteous and kind invitations from our worthy Sir Knight Alonzo L. Willoughby, E. C. of Mobile Commandery No. 2, to visit Mobile during one of the conclave of the gallant Knights of his command. For sometime I had flattered my soul with the sweet unction of being able to visit them, for I knew that it would, to me and those accompanying me, be a source of infinite gratification, but alas,—“*l'homme propose et Dieu dispose.*” I had, with deep regret, to forego that pleasure. I was unable to attend. However, a few Sir Knights visited our sister city and the glowing praise they bring of the courtesies received from the hands of the Mobile Knights only reiterates the former reputation of these Templars.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, Sir Knights, I submit for your critical examination my letter book and all orders issued.

In returning to you the authority with which you had invested me one year ago, I can but hope that my official acts, which are now submitted for your examination, may prove satisfactory, and that by no act of mine has the bright lustre of the Order in this jurisdiction been diminished or dimmed. My sole desire and wish, and the only aim which has actuated me in all my doings, has been to bring forward the grandeur of the Order of the Temple, and inculcating the great morals taught therein. By the will of our Divine Father we have met in conclave. By His will and the kind intercessions of our Redeemer may we again be permitted to assemble to deliberate over our affairs.

And now, retiring from this proud position, permit me to thank the offi-

cers and members of the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies for the many acts of courtesies received from their hands, and may they always cherish this Order with that ardor and vim which they have heretofore shown.

On motion of M. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows, the address was referred to a special committee of three for distribution, and P. G. Commanders J. Q. A. Fellows, Sam'l M. Todd and Richard Lambert appointed said committee.

The Grand Treasurer submitted the following report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee:

Sam'l M. Todd, Grand Treasurer,

In account with the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, of Louisiana

| 1875. | Dr. | |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| Feb'y 12—To currency on hand, as per report..... | | \$251 69 |
| 1876. | | |
| Jan'y 25—To currency from G. Sontag, Grand Recorder... | \$ 60 00 | |
| Jan'y 31— " " " " ... | 30 00 | |
| Feb'y 2— " " " " ... | 11 65 | |
| Feb'y 4— " " " " ... | 10 00— | 111 65 |
| Feb'y 12—To balance due Grand Treasurer | | 73 06 |
| | | \$436 40 |
| 1875. | Cr. | |
| Feb'y 18—By warrant No. 1, R. S. Burke, Grand Guardian. | \$10 00 | |
| March 1— " No. 2, G. Sontag, Grand Recorder... | 75 00 | |
| March 1— " No. 3, Grand Recorder, postage.... | 8 90 | |
| May 10— " No. 4, A. W. Hyatt, postage stamps. | 5 00 | |
| May 20— " No. 5, A. W. Hyatt, print'g proc'd'gs. | 100 00 | |
| June 3— " No. 6, " " " " | 232 50 | |
| June 25— " No. 7, Grand Recorder, express chgs. | 2 00 | |
| July 9— " No. 8, " P. O. box.... | 3 00 | |
| | | \$436 40 |
| 1876. | | |
| Feb'y 12—Balance due Grand Treasurer | | \$73 06 |

Courteously submitted,

SAM'L M. TODD,

Grand Treasurer.

NEW ORLEANS, February 12, 1876.

The Grand Recorder made the following report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee:

NEW ORLEANS, February 18, 1876.

To the R. E. Grand Commandery of Louisiana :

SIR KNIGHTS—I herewith submit this, my report of the transactions of my office for the past year :

In obedience to instructions I caused five hundred copies of the proceedings to be printed, and distributed a number in the usual manner.

It is with pleasure that I can report that all the Subordinate Commanderies have made correct returns and paid their dues.

And now, Sir Knights, having determined to give up Masonic offices, I have to tender you my sincere thanks for the confidence you have for so many years reposed in me, and, although I may no longer be an office bearer, my utmost endeavors will still be for the prosperity of our beloved Order.

Subjoined you have my account current for your approval.

Courteously,

G. SONTAG,

Grand Recorder.

G. Sontag, Grand Recorder,

In account with the Grand Commandery of Louisiana :

| | | |
|---|-----------------|----------|
| 1876. | DR. | |
| To Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1 | | \$20 00 |
| " Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2 | | 40 00 |
| " Orleans Commandery No. 3 | | 30 00 |
| " Girard Commandery No. 4 | | 10 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$100 00 |
| | CR. | |
| By Grand Treasurer | | \$100 00 |
| | G. SONTAG, | |
| | Grand Recorder. | |

Sir L. T. Murdock was appointed on the Finance Committee in place of Sir D. C. Johnston.

The Committee on Correspondence reported verbally that their report was ready, which was received and the report was ordered to be printed with the proceedings.

The minutes of the Special Conclave of June 13, 1875, were read and approved.

The following resolution offered by E. Sir Wm. L. Stauford, at the Special Conclave, June 13th, 1875, and which was laid over, was called up :

That this Grand Commandery adopt the marks of distinction for officers, as specified in its General Order No. 1.

When R. E. Sir Joseph P. Hornor offered the following amendment, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the edict of this Grand Commandery relative to uniform, adopted at the Conclave of 1875, be re-enacted, but to remain inoperative until permission is obtained to enforce it.

The Special Committee to whom was referred the address of the R. E. Grand Commander report :

To the Grand Commandery of Louisiana :

Your Special Committee, to whom was referred the Grand Commander's address for distribution, ask leave to report the following resolutions, and recommend their adoption :

Resolved, 1st.—That the portion referring to the death of P. D. Grand Commander J. B. Scot be referred to a special committee of three.

2nd. That the Representative from the Grand Commandery of Iowa be received with appropriate honors.

3rd. That the thanks of this Grand Commandery be tendered to the vestry of St. Paul's Church for its use on St. John's Day in June, and to the choir, whose music so much added to the services of the occasion.

4th. That all motions relating to the finances of the Grand Commandery be referred to the Committee on Finance.

5th. That the recommendation that candidates for the Orders of the Temple be required to have been two years a Master Mason, and six months a Royal Arch Mason be approved, and that the reporting of the necessary statute be referred to committee, etc.

6th. That the revision of the by-laws, etc., be referred to a special committee of three.

7th. That the appointment by the Grand Commander of a Drill Master be approved, and future appointments be left to the discretion of the Grand Commanders.

8th. That the orders and decisions of the Grand Commander, and his official acts generally, be approved.

Courteously,

J. Q. A. FELLOWS,
SAM'L M. TODD,
RICHARD LAMBERT.

NEW ORLEANS, February 18, 1876.

On motion the report was received and the appendant resolutions separately adopted.

The 7th resolution was amended by Sir George H. Braughn, that the Drill Master be compensated for his services, which was adopted and referred to the Finance Committee.

The R. E. Grand Commander then announced the following committees, as per resolutions offered by the Committee on his Address :

Obituary—S. M. Todd, M. E. Girard, John W. Madden, Geo. Soulé.

By-Laws—Jos. P. Hornor, Berry Russell, Geo. H. Braughn.

Finance—Sam'l Alston, L. T. Murdock, Edw. Baker.

A bill from Sir G. Sontag, amounting to \$16 75 was presented and ordered to be paid.

The Grand Commandery then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, Sirs E. M. Ivens and W. F. Cleveland acting as tellers, which resulted as follows.

SIR BERRY RUSSELL, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1,
R. E. Grand Commander.

SIR JOHN W. MADDEN, of Orleans Commandery No. 3,
V. E. Deputy Grand Commander.

SIR LORING T. MURDOCK, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2,
E. Grand Generalissimo.

SIR SAMUEL ALSTON, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1,
E. Grand Captain General.

SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS, of Orleans Commandery No. 3,
E. Grand Prelate.

SIR GEORGE H. BRAUGHN, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2,
E. Grand Senior Warden.

SIR CLAUDIUS MAYO, of Girard Commandery No. 4,
E. Grand Junior Warden.

SIR SAMUEL M. TODD, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2,
E. Grand Treasurer.

SIR E. E. ADAMS, of Orleans Commandery No. 3,
E. Grand Recorder.

The R. E. Grand Commander elect, then announced the appointment of the following appointed officers:

SIR GEORGE SOULE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1,
E. Grand Standard Bearer.

SIR EDWARD BAKER, of Orleans Commandery No. 3,
E. Grand Sword Bearer.

SIR C. W. HOTCHKISS, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2,
E. Grand Warden.

SIR J. W. MAGUIRE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1,
E. Grand Captain of the Guard.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report, which was received and the appendant resolutions adopted:

To the M. E. Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana:

Your Finance Committee respectfully beg leave to report that they have examined the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Recorder and find the same correct, and recommend that they be approved.

We find the indebtedness of the Grand Commandery to be at present about \$475. and that the expenses of this session, printing, Drill Master, Recorder and Guard, will amount to \$400, making a total of \$875, and we respectfully recommend that the Subordinate Commanderies be assessed in the following sums to cover the above indebtedness :

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Indivisible Friends No. 1..... | \$250 00 |
| Jacques de Molay No. 2..... | 300 00 |
| Orleans No. 3..... | 240 00 |
| Girard No. 4..... | 50 00 |

\$840 00

This assessment being based upon the number of Sir Knights pro rata in each Commandery.

We respectfully submit the accompanying resolutions.

S. ALSTON,
L. T. MURDOCK,
E. BAKER,
Committee.

Resolved, That the following sums or so much thereof as may be necessary be appropriated to cover the expenses of the present session;

| | |
|---|----------|
| For printing proceedings..... | \$250 00 |
| “ services of Grand Drill Master during the year 1875.... | 50 00 |
| “ services of Recorder..... | 40 00 |
| “ services of Guard..... | 10 00 |
| “ expenses of Committee on Correspondence..... | 30 00 |

\$380 00

Resolved, That the Subordinate Commanderies be assessed in the following sums to cover the indebtedness of the Grand Commandery :

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Indivisible Friends No. 1..... | \$250 00 |
| Jacques de Molay No. 2..... | 300 00 |
| Orleans No. 3..... | 240 00 |
| Girard No. 4..... | 50 00 |

\$840 00

The Grand Officers elect and appointed, were then installed by R. E. Grand Commander DeGrange, assisted by Past Grand Commander Hornor, as Deputy.

On motion of R. E. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder cause to be printed five hundred copies of the proceedings of this Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and returns of subordinate Commanderies, and that the E. Grand Recorder draw on the warrant of the R. E. Grand Commander, for such sums as may be necessary to carry this resolution into effect, and that fifty copies of the proceedings be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Correspondence.

Resolved, That the R. E. Grand Commander be authorized to draw warrants for all incidental expenses of this Grand Commandery.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following committee :

On Foreign Correspondence—Sirs Joseph H. DeGrange and Andrew Hero, Jr.

No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN AND KNIGHTLY FORM, until its next Annual Conclave, on Friday, February 16th, A. D. 1877, A. O. 759.



BERRY RUSSELL,

Grand Commander.

ATTEST :

E. E. ADAMS,

Grand Recorder.

ANNUAL RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES, FOR THE YEAR 1876.

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY No. 1.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

Original Charter from Grand Encampment of the State of New York, May 4, A. D. 1816.
A. O. 698.

Enrolled under the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, September 10th,
A. D. 1844.

OFFICERS FOR 1876.

| | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Sir Sam'l Alston | E. C. | Sir F. W. Delesdernier.. | Treasurer. |
| " George Soule..... | G. | " M. A. Calongne | Recorder. |
| " W. T. Cleveland..... | C. G. | " D. Stewart..... | Stan. Bearer. |
| " A. L. Abbott..... | Prelate. | " F. Eyle..... | Sword Bearer. |
| " E. M. Ivens. | Sen. Warden. | " J. Olle | Warden. |
| " D. A. DePass | Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire | Sent. |
| Guards—J. H. Harvey, A. H. DePass, J. L. Hardin. | | | |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| T. A. Bartlette, P. G. G., | M. A. Calongne, P. G. C. G. | Richard Lambert, P. G. C. |
| Hugh Breen, P. D. G. C., | James Stafford, | S. Hopkins, Jr., |
| John G. Fleming, P. G. C. G. F. | W. Delesdernier, | I. W. Homan, |
| John A. Peel, P. D. G. C., | | Berry Russell, G. C. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Allabaugh, J. R. | Cottle, W. P. | Hart, L. | O'Dowd, J. |
| Annan, A. | Cummings, A. N. | Hinton, Isaac T. | Oliver, George C. |
| Armstrong, A. J. | Coyle, W. G. | Hall, S. R. | Otto, Fred. |
| Barnes, J. S. | Chandler, J. B. | Hall, G. L. | Pinckard, G. J. |
| Barker, P. A. | Churchill, P. J. | Hansell, W. S. | Patton, Anthony |
| Burden, Thomas | Crawford, J. D. | Hardin, J. L. | Redon, O. M. |
| Barkdull, E. J. | Carpenter, J. C. | Hamilton, Geo. C. | Riverra, P. Nap. |
| Baker, John | Custer, A. B. | Ivens, E. M. | Rickey, R. S. |
| Bell, Edward | Daussat, J. L. | Isaacson, A. H. | Sheen, Dennis |
| Brown, H. C. | Duncan, H. C. | Jones, F. A. | Starr, William |
| Brand, E. | Delmas, A. H. | Johnson, George | Skardon, A. W. |
| Barry, David | Dorand, J. H. | Kells, Chas. E. | Stanton, W. C. |
| Babington, Robt. | Danspaugh, Jas. M. | Knapp, F. H. | Sweeney, James |
| Bouligny, Edmond | Dodge, L. J. | Keenan, Pat. | Thomas, Charles |
| Bruns, A. C. | Furneaux, Jas. | Kellett, John | Tillberg, L. W. |
| Brook, Samuel | Gardner, James | Kleiber, Emile | Thorn, John |
| Carter, J. H. | Graham, David R. | Kilpatrick, W. H. | Wadsworth, G. M. |
| Cox, William | Gregg, Win. | Kouns, John | Watkins, Fearn |

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Cage, D. S. | Gill, T. M. | Lafon, René | Wallace, James |
| Constantini, F. | Greenwood, P. P. | McDuff, Wm. | Werlein, Philip |
| Cassidy, Henry | Graham, H. W. | Mullan, H. J. | Wolverton, N. W. |
| Carraher, F. M. | Heron, A. C. | Martin, Angel | Young, John, Jr. |
| Carey, G. W. | Herwig, J. L. | Maxwell, Robt. | Ziegler, Joseph |
| Campbell, A. | Haggart, S. B. | Murphy, W. J. | |
| Christian, P. J. | Herwig, P. F. | Ochigievich, J. | Total—122. |

Knighted—Samuel Brook, James M. Danspaugh, Emile Kleiber, George C. Oliver.

Reinstated—L. J. Dodge.

Demitted—W. B. Tullis.

Died—O. J. Donella.

Stricken from the Roll—Oscar Czarnowski, John Clark, G. L. Cain, S. H. Panzer, Thos. Sheehan, R. G. Sterling, Jona C. White.

JACQUES DEMOLAY COMMANDERY No. 2.

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, April 24th, A. D. 1851,
A. O. 733.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

OFFICERS FOR 1876.

| | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Sir L. T. Murdock..... | E. C. | Sir Samuel M. Todd..... | Treasurer. |
| " C. W. Hotchkiss..... | G. | " Gustavus Sontag..... | Recorder. |
| " G. H. Braughn..... | C. G. | " M. A. Peck..... | Stand. Bearer. |
| " T. F. Patton..... | Prelate. | " J. W. Adams..... | Sword Bearer. |
| " J. H. Scott..... | Sen. Warden. | " F. H. Wilson..... | Warder. |
| " O. L. Hill..... | Jun. Warden. | " E. B. O'Sullivan..... | Sent. |
| G. W. Collins, J. P. Douglass, G. Murray, Jr.,..... | | | |
| Guards. | | | |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| W. W. Johnson. | John B. Robertson. | James B. Scott, P. D. G. C. |
| Samuel M. Todd, P. G. C. | J. A. Stevenson, P. G. C. | Jos. H. DeGrange, P. G. C. |
| Harvey Cree, P. G. C. G. | | |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Adams, E. C. | Dunbar, Geo. H. | Manning, W. H. | Sheppers, Alfred |
| Addison, Ashford | Dunn, James B. | McConneghy, W. | Schwartz, Henry |
| Austin, R. S. | Egerton, Thos. | McGuffy, H. | Small, A. B. |
| Batchelor, Jas. C. | Eyrich, A. | McNeil, Alex. | Smith, A. |
| Baxter, Eug. | Eyrich, Robt. C. | McPeake, T. B. | Smith, John C. |
| Bell, Wm. Robt. | Fasnacht, Robt. | McWilliams, J. G. | Springer, J. G. |
| Bennet, Philip | Fellow, F. T. | Mitchell, Jas. R. | Springer, Chas. H. |
| Berry, Sam'l. A. | Fitzgerald, W. E. | Montgomery, R. J. | Stocker, Chas. H. |
| Blessey, E. | Frere, A. G. | Muney, M. B. | Stroud, Geo. |
| Bohne, Geo. C. | Francis, M. W. | Murch, John M. | Strorg, Robt. |
| Boning, Geo. | Fuller, Charles A. | Nagle, Israel E. | Sutton, Chas. S. |
| Bonnabel, Hy. | Garner, George G. | Newton, C. W. | Thayer, F. N. |
| Bothick, T. W. | Gernon, Owen | Norris, J. W. | Timbrell, G. H. W. |
| Brode, F. A. | Glennon Robert | O'Beirne, W. J. | Todd, James |
| Buckholz, A. P. | Hamburger, H. | Pearce, J. W. | Trippett, R. S. |
| Buckley, H. P. | Hasam, Thomas | Peck, D. W. C. | Theodore, Nicholas |
| Bullard, E. C. | Holt, Oscar | Pecot, Sully J. | Turck, J. R. |
| Burk, A. | Hawkins, John | Peck, O. F. | Twitchell, M. H. |
| Campbell, Wm. | Hedges, T. F. | Perry, David P. | VanHorn, T. D. |

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Carey, J. T. | Holyland, F. | Pickert, J. A. | Villasana, F. deP. |
| Carnahan, H. S. | Hughes, David | Pierson, Hugh | Walker, Chas. |
| Carroll, T. | Hayat, A. W. | Pike, Z. M. | Wang, Fred. |
| Carter, Albert G. | Ittmann, G. B. | Race, George W. | Whitmore, C. E. |
| Carter, Howell, | Johnston, D. C. | Rameli, D. S. | Wheeler, Chas. B. |
| Chaffe, Chas. | Jones, J. W. | Richardson, J. G. | Williams, H. |
| Chase, C. H. | Kent, Amos | Robson, William | Wilson, J. H. |
| Collins, J. K. | Lane, Lafayette N. | Rowan, Frank P. | Wilson, James |
| Craig, Emmet D. | Lee, John J. | Ruth, F. D. | York, E. A. |
| Cutler, Alex. S. | Lisso, Julius | Schilling, H. T. | Young, H. C. |
| Callender, R. K. | Ludwigsen, J. H. | Schmidt, Chas. | Yongg, J. T. |
| Chaffe, Wm. H. | Lunn, Thomas | Selby, Geo. | Young, R. T. |
| Chaffe, Chris. Jr. | Lusse, Caspar | Selph, C. McR. | |
| Darden, R. S. | Macon, Thos. L. | Shelden, A. D. | Total—151. |

Knighthed—John W. Adams, Wm. H. Chaffe, Christopher Chaffe, Jr., A. G.
 Frere, Oscar Holt, F. D. Ruth, Nicholas Theodore, Charles B. Wheeler
Died—James Low, D. F. Mitchell. Wm. S. Pike.
Suspended—E. L. Bruce, by Excelsior Lodge, No. 166.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY No. 3,

Charter from the Grand Encampment of the United States, September 4th, A. D. 1862.

A. O. 744.

Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans.

OFFICERS FOR 1876.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Sir John W. Madden | E. C. | Sir E. J. Mehnert | Treasurer. |
| " E. E. Adams | G. | " Thomas Cripps | Recorder. |
| " E. Baker. | C. G. | " Wm. M. Todd .. | Stand. Bearer. |
| " John H. Clarke | Prelate. | " Jas. E. Ayre... | Sword Bearer. |
| " T. J. Rogers | Sen. Warden. | " Wm. E. Murphy | Warden. |
| " J. H. Rothwell | Jun. Warden. | " J. W. Maguire(not a m'b'r). Sent. | |

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| J. Q. A. Fellows, P. G. C. & P. G. M. G. E. U. S. | John H. Clarke, P. G. C. G. |
| Joseph P. Hornor, P. G. C. | Thos. Cripps. |
| Wm. R. Whitaker, P. D. G. C. | Geo. Baldey. |
| W. L. Stanford, P. G. C. G. | J. W. Madden, D. G. C. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Allen, C. H. | Eaton, T. W. | Myers, F. E. | Sizer, Geo. W. |
| Badger, A. S. | Frank, W. | Monroe, S. F. | Scott, Chas. A. |
| Benedict, W. T. | Gardner, L. H. | More, Thos. T. | Staples, Geo. |
| Bofinger, W. H. | Gilman, S. H. | Mudge, Carson | Sypher, A. J. |
| Barrett, A. J. | Gray, Jacob | Merritt, C. H. | Sabourin, E. |
| Babcock, A. C. | Good, Fred | Mehaffey, J. H. | Shook, E. A. |
| Borges, J. M. | Hays, H. T. | McMains, John | Sypher, Jacob H. |
| Barringer, H. V. | Hero, Andrew, Jr. | Mumford, F. M. | Steele, Hiram R. |
| Bemiss, S. M. | Harris, J. S. | Maguire, Pat. J. | Stocking, D. |
| Baldwin, Albert | Huff, F. | Nash, Chas. T. | Trimble, J. E. |
| Baxter, J. B. D. | Henry, Thos., Jr. | O'Connor, Thos. | Tisdale, E. |
| Benedict, W. S. | Heath, E. | Parsons, J. P. | Turner, W. R. B. |
| Burk, R. S. | Holland, W. H. | Porter, C. S. D. | Tanner, J. J. |
| Burbank, N. | Johnson, W. A. | Potter, Jotham | Watson, Robert |

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Curry, E. S. | James, W. G. | Power, L. | Wright, S. B. |
| Collins, J. P. | Keys, Nelson | Rice, Chas. S. | Wilcox, N. A. |
| Combs, C. W. | Leacock, W. T. | Reid, Edward | Wilcox, G. C. |
| Campbell, Robt. | Lusse, Henry | Robinson, Wm. M. | Walker, Jos. A. |
| Cooper, J. B. | Leitz, Ambrose | Remick, F. C. | Walker, Jos. |
| Davidson, C. W. | Montgomery, D. | Richards, Jno. L. | Wright, Jas. S. |
| Dunlap, J. G. | Moon, W. H. | Reynolds, W. H. | Wilkins, A. H. |
| Delery, Jas. D. | McGinnis, J. J. | Rivers, R. E. | Yalets, G. |
| Estlin, Chas. T. | Morrison, D. C. | Shaw, Alfred | Total—107. |

Knighted—James Dornan Delery, Francis Marion Mumford, Patrick James Maguire, Jacob Hale Sypher, Hiram Rosswell Steele, Denison Stocking.

Demitted—Andrew Parle.

Re-Instated—Andrew Parle, Wm. Cooper.

Died—Harmon Doane, F. Fuselier, Wm. Cooper, N. Miller, A. de B. Hughes, S. A. Stockdale.

Stricken from the Roll—R. D. Bovard, B. Campbell, C. S. Hunt, B. R. Lawrence, P. P. Walsh.

GIRARD COMMANDERY No. 4.

Opelousas, St. Landry Parish.

OFFICERS.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sir Michel Eloï Girard.....E. C. | Sir J. W. Jackson .....Treasurer. |
| " Claudius Mayo .....G. | " Jos. D. Richard. ....Recorder. |
| " James Ray.....C. G. | " F. L. Pitre.....Stand. Bearer. |
| " Wm. A. Robertson ....Prelate. | " J. Chenier .....Sword Bearer. |
| " Geo. Pulford.....Sen. Warden. | " T. Fontenot.....Warder. |
| " Geo. O. Elms .....Jun. Warden. | " Louis Lejeune.....Sentinel. |

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Breaux, Jos. A. | Gantt, Elbert | Lewis, Ed. T. | Morris, J. L. |
| Crawford, Wm. | Gordy, Jno. C. | Mudd, Francis S. | White, W. D. |
| Dugas, R. | Hundley, F. J. | May, M. G. | Total—23. |

Knighted—T. Fontenot, W. D. White.

**LIST OF ELECTIVE GRAND OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS
OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.**

| R. E. G. COMMANDER. | V. E. D. G. COMMANDER. | E. G. GENERALISSIMO. | E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. | E. C. PRELATE. | E. GRAND TREASURER. | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1864 Hy. Rufus Swasey* | J. Q. A. Fellows | Fulgence Ricau* | Willis P. Coleman* | Jno. H. Holland* | Hosea Edwards* | Sam'l M. Todd. |
| 1865 J. Q. A. Fellows | S. M. Todd | Fulgence Ricau* | Willis P. Coleman* | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey | Joe. P. Hornor. |
| 1866 Sam'l M. Todd | Fulgence Ricau* | Joseph P. Hornor | M. A. Calongne | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1867 Sam'l M. Todd | Fulgence Ricau* | Joseph P. Hornor | Wm. R. Whitaker | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1868 Fulgence Ricau* | Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson | Wm. R. Whitaker | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey | A. E. Billing* |
| 1869 Joseph P. Hornor | J. A. Stevenson | W. R. Whitaker | M. A. Calongne | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1870 Joseph P. Hornor | James B. Scot* | T. A. Bartlette | Jas. E. McBeth* | H. R. Swasey* | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1871 John A. Stevenson | Richard Lambert | W. R. Whitaker | Hugh Breen | H. C. Duncan | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1872 Richard Lambert | W. R. Whitaker | Hugh Breen | Jos. H. DeGrange | J. C. Carpenter | Emanuel Blessey | G. Sontag. |
| 1873 J. H. DeGrange | Hugh Breen | John H. Clarke | John G. Fleming | J. C. Carpenter | H. P. Buckley | G. Sontag. |
| 1874 Joseph P. Hornor | John A. Peel | Rufus L. Bruce | Wm. L. Stanford | J. C. Carpenter | Sam'l M. Todd | G. Sontag. |
| 1875 J. H. DeGrange | Michel E. Girard | Berry Russell | Harvey Cree | J. C. Carpenter | Sam'l M. Todd | G. Sontag. |
| 1876 Berry Russell | John W. Madden | L. T. Murdock | Sam'l Alston | J. Q. A. Fellows | Sam'l M. Todd | E. E. Adams. |

*Dead.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF COMMANDERIES UNDER THIS JURISDICTION.

| NAME OF COMMANDERIES. | Number. | WHERE LOCATED. | E. COMMANDER. | RECORDER. | Number of Members. | Orders Conferred. | Affiliated. | Demitted. | Died. | Suspended. | Expelled. | Struck from Roll. | Re-instated. |
|---------------------------|---------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|-------|------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------|
| Indivisible Friends | 1 | New Orleans..... | Samuel Alston..... | M. A. Calongne..... | 122 | 4 | | 1 | 1 | | | 7 | 1 |
| Jacques de Molay..... | 2 | " | L. T. Murdock..... | G. Sontag | 151 | 8 | | | 3 | 1 | | | |
| Orleans | 3 | " | John W. Madden.. | T. Cripps. | 107 | 6 | | 1 | 6 | | | 5 | 2 |
| Girard | 4 | Opelousas | M. E. Girard | Joseph D. Richard. | 23 | 2 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 403 | 20 | . | 2 | 10 | 1 | | 12 | 3 |

REGISTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

| STATE. | DATE OF ORGANIZATION. | GRAND COMMANDER. | RESIDENCE. | GRAND RECORDER. | RESIDENCE. |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Alabama..... | 1 December..... | 1860 Felix G. Norman..... | Tusculumia..... | Daniel Sayre..... | Montgomery..... |
| Arkansas..... | 25 March..... | 1872 Elias R. Duval..... | Fort Smith..... | John W. Rison..... | Little Rock..... |
| California..... | 10 August..... | 1854 Henry S. Orme..... | Los Angeles..... | Chas. L. Wiggin..... | San Francisco..... |
| Colorado..... | 25 March..... | 1876 Henry M. Teller..... | Central..... | Edw. C. Parmalee..... | Georgetown..... |
| Connecticut..... | 13 September..... | 1827 John G. Root..... | Hartford..... | John W. Stedman..... | Norwich..... |
| Georgia..... | 18 April..... | Geo. T. Anderson..... | Atlanta..... | Chas. R. Armstrong..... | Macon..... |
| Illinois..... | 27 October..... | 1857 Theo. T. Gurney..... | Chicago..... | James H. Miles..... | Chicago..... |
| Indiana..... | 16 May..... | 1854 Nicholas B. Ruckle..... | Indianapolis..... | John M. Bramwell..... | Indianapolis..... |
| Iowa..... | 6 June..... | 1864 Edw. A. Guilbert..... | Dubuque..... | Wm. B. Landridge..... | Muscatine..... |
| Kansas..... | 29 December..... | 1868 John L. Pillbrick..... | Douphan..... | Erasmus T. Carr..... | Leavenworth..... |
| Kentucky..... | 5 October..... | 1847 Hiram Bassett..... | Millersburg..... | W. G. Stone..... | Covington..... |
| Louisiana..... | 12 February..... | 1864 Berry Russell..... | New Orleans..... | Edgar E. Adams..... | New Orleans..... |
| Maine..... | 5 May..... | 1862 Seth C. Gordon..... | Portland..... | Ira Berry..... | Portland..... |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island..... | 12 May..... | 1805 Henry W. Rugg..... | Providence, R.I..... | Alfred F. Chapman..... | Boston..... |
| Maryland..... | 23 January..... | 1871 Wm. T. Adreon..... | Baltimore..... | Chas. T. Sisco..... | Baltimore..... |
| Michigan..... | 15 January..... | 1857 S. S. Mathews..... | Pontiac..... | Wm. P. Innes..... | Grand Rapids..... |
| Minnesota..... | 23 October..... | 1865 B. H. Langley..... | Winona..... | A. T. C. Pierson..... | St. Paul..... |
| Mississippi..... | 23 January..... | 1857 G. W. Cox..... | Columbus..... | J. L. Power..... | Jackson..... |
| Missouri..... | 22 May..... | 1860 John C. Bloomfield..... | St. Louis..... | Geo. Frank Gonley..... | St. Louis..... |
| New Hampshire..... | 12 June..... | 1860 Joseph W. Fellows..... | Manchester..... | John A. Harris..... | Concord..... |
| New Jersey..... | 14 February..... | 1860 Wm. L. Newell..... | Millville..... | Thos. J. Corson..... | Trenton..... |
| New York..... | 18 June..... | 1814 Chas. Roomie..... | New York..... | Robert Macoy..... | New York..... |
| Nebraska..... | 28 December..... | 1871 Rolland H. Oakley..... | Lincoln..... | Wm. R. Bowen..... | Omaha..... |
| Ohio..... | 24 October..... | 1843 Chas. C. Kiefer..... | Dayton..... | James Nesbit..... | Troy..... |
| Pennsylvania..... | 14 April..... | 1854 Chas. H. Kingston..... | Philadelphia..... | Chas. E. Meyer..... | Philadelphia..... |
| Tennessee..... | 12 October..... | 1859 Henry M. Aiken..... | Knoxville..... | Morton B. Howell..... | Nashville..... |
| Texas..... | 19 January..... | 1855 L. M. Openheimer..... | Calvert..... | Robert Brewster..... | Houston..... |
| Vermont..... | 17 June..... | 1824 Jos. L. Perkins..... | St. Johnsbury..... | J. M. Poland..... | Montpelier..... |
| Virginia..... | 27 November..... | 1822 R. E. Withers..... | Alexandria..... | John Dove..... | Richmond..... |
| Wisconsin..... | 29 October..... | 1859 C. F. Whitford..... | Beloit..... | John W. Woodhull..... | Berlin..... |
| West Virginia..... | 24 February..... | 1874 Geo. W. Patton..... | Kanawha, C.H..... | W. G. Summers..... | Kanawha, C.H..... |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, near other Grand Commanderies.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alabama..... | Sir John H. Higley. |
| Arkansas..... | Sir E. H. English. |
| California..... | Sir Isaac S. Titus. |
| Connecticut..... | Sir Daniel Calkins. |
| Georgia..... | Sir Robert L. Roddy. |
| Illinois..... | Sir W. M. Egan. |
| Indiana..... | Sir E. D. Palmer. |
| Iowa..... | Sir Edward A. Guilbert |
| Kentucky..... | Sir Charles R. Woodruff. |
| Kansas..... | Sir John M. Price |
| Maine..... | Sir Josiah H. Drummond. |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island..... | Sir William W. Baker. |
| Missouri..... | Sir George Frank Gouley. |
| Mississippi..... | Sir E. George DeLap. |
| Minnesota..... | Sir E. F. Dodge. |
| Michigan..... | Sir E. I. Garfield. |
| Maryland..... | Sir E. F. Schultz. |
| New York..... | Sir Ezra S. Barnum. |
| New Jersey..... | Sir Thomas J. Corson. |
| Nebraska..... | Sir Charles W. Seymour. |
| New Hampshire..... | Sir Joseph W. Fellows. |
| Ohio..... | Sir Enoch T. Carson. |
| Pennsylvania..... | Sir James H. Hopkins. |
| Tennessee..... | Sir A. D. Sears. |
| Texas..... | Sir L. M. Oppenheimer. |
| Vermont..... | Sir Jos. L. Perkins. |
| Wisconsin..... | ♦ Sir Henry L. Palmer. |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Of other Grand Commanderies, near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Alabama..... | Sir James C. Batchelor. |
| California..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Connecticut..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Georgia..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Illinois..... | Sir Gustavus Sontag. |
| Indiana..... | Sir Richard Lambert. |
| Iowa..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Kentucky..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Kansas..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Maine..... | Sir _____ |
| Massachusetts and Rhode Island..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Missouri..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Mississippi..... | Sir Joseph H. DeGrange. |
| Minnesota..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Maryland..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| New York..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| New Jersey..... | Sir Joseph P. Hornor. |
| Nebraska..... | Sir _____ |
| Pennsylvania..... | Sir Samuel M. Todd. |
| Tennessee..... | Sir James C. Batchelor. |
| Texas..... | Sir Richard Lambert. |
| Vermont..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |
| Wisconsin..... | Sir J. Q. A. Fellows. |

SPECIAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

AND

APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.



THE R. E. GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, assembled at its Sacred Asylum, Grand Lodge Hall, City of New Orleans, in Special Conclave, on Friday, June 11th, A. D. 1875, A. O. 757, at 7 o'clock, P. M., the following

OFFICERS PRESENT:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SIR JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE..... | R. E. GRAND COMMANDER. |
| " WM. R. WHITAKER, as..... | V. E. DY. GRAND COMMANDER. |
| " BERRY RUSSELL..... | E. GRAND GENERALISSIMO. |
| " HARVEY CREE | E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL. |
| " HERMAN C. DUNCAN..... | E. GRAND PRELATE. |
| " JOHN W. MADDEN | E. GRAND SENIOR WARDEN. |
| " SAMUEL ALSTON..... | E. GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN. |
| " SAM'L M. TODD..... | E. GRAND TREASURER. |
| " GUSTAVUS SONTAG..... | E. GRAND RECORDER. |
| " GEORGE SOULE..... | E. GRAND STANDARD BEARER. |
| " T. F. HEDGES, as..... | E. GRAND SWORD BEARER. |
| " E. E. ADAMS, as | E. GRAND WARDER. |
| " J. W. MAGUIRE. as..... | E. GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS. |

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| SIR RICHARD LAMBERT | P. R. E. Grand Commander. |
| " JOHN H. CLARKE..... | P. E. G. Generalissimo. |
| " R. L. BRUCE..... | " " " |
| " M. A. CALONGNE..... | P. E. Grand Captain General. |
| " JOHN G. FLEMING | " " " " |
| " WM. L. STANFORD | " " " " |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

SIR SAMUEL MANNING TODDPennsylvania, New York,
Kentucky, Georgia and California.
SIR JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE.....Mississippi.
" RICHARD LAMBERT.....Indiana and Texas.
" GUSTAVUS SONTAGIllinois.

The Grand Commandery was opened in AMPLE AND SOLEMN FORM.

The R. E. Grand Commander then appointed the following Sir Knights as a Committee on Credentials:

SIR M. A. CALONGNE, of Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1,
" T. F. HEDGES, of Jacques de Molay Commandery No. 2,
" W. L. STANFORD, of Orleans Commandery No. 3,

who submitted the following report, which was adopted :

NEW ORLEANS, June 11th, 1876.

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Louisiana :

Your Committee on Credentials report the following as entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery, as legal Representatives :

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS COMMANDERY NO. 1.

Sir Berry Russell, E. C. (H. W. Graham, proxy).
Sir Sam'l Alston, G. Sir Geo. Soulé, C. G.

JACQUES DE MOLAY COMMANDERY NO. 2.

Sir Harvey Cree, E. C. Sir D. C. Johnston, G Sir Robt. Strong, C. G.

ORLEANS COMMANDERY NO. 3.

J. W. Madden, E. C. (E. F. Adams, proxy.) A, Hero. Jr., G.
E. Baker, C. G.

GIRARD COMMANDERY NO. 4.

Sir M. E. Girard, E. C. (T. F. Hedges, proxy.)
Sir C. Mayo, G. (J. H. Clarke, proxy). Sir J. L. Morris, C. G. (H. Breen, proxy).

Courteously submitted,

M. A. CALONGNE,
T. F. HEDGES,
WM. L. STANFORD.

Upon the roll being called, the following Commanderies were found to be represented, viz :

Indivisible Friends No. 1; Jacques de Molay No. 2; Orleans No. 3; Girard No. 4.

The R. E. Grand Commander Sir Joseph H. Degrange, delivered the following address, which was received, and on motion ordered to be printed with the next proceedings:

Sir Knights:

I have summoned you in special conclave to take into consideration the subject of uniform, and the installation of the Grand Standard Bearer.

At the last conclave of the Grand Commandery, our then Grand Commander laid stress on the subject of uniform and costume, and recommended to this Grand Commandery that, in order to avoid confusion and establish a regularity in the costume of the Sir Knights, there should be adopted a regulation costume, and that it should be prescribed and thoroughly enforced, and in furtherance of these views he recommended that the matter be referred to a committee, to report, if possible, at that session. This was done, and the committee reported a uniform similar to that prescribed by the Grand Encampment, with some additions in regard to rank and distinctions, which report was unanimously adopted, and the details of which you are familiar with.

In order to carry out the wishes of the Grand Commandery, I immediately promulgated to the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction this ordinance, and informed the Eminent Commanders that I would hold them accountable for its observance and strict compliance within their respective commands.

Some one unknown to me has complained direct to the Most Eminent Grand Master, without my knowledge. Considerable correspondence ensued on the subject, and as its final I lay before you the decision of the Grand Master in regard to my General Order No. 1, which is the promulgation of the ordinance.

As it was a matter originating and adopted by the Grand Commandery, I refer it back for action and consideration.

The Grand Master states, in his communication of May 12th:

"The statute or edict distinctly declares that the uniform of a Knight Templar is that prescribed by the Grand Encampment in 1862. No other uniform is allowed, and no authority *other than the Grand Encampment* can modify or alter it.

Your General Order No. 1 undertakes to modify or alter the uniform prescribed by the Grand Encampment in 1862, and to that extent it is unauthorized and illegal.

Your statement that your Commandery adopted this modification or alteration, and that General Order No. 1 was a mere promulgation of the action of the Grand Commandery, relieves you from the responsibility of instigating the action.

I think the proper course is that you propose to call your Grand Commandery together, and have them reverse the action prescribing a uniform *That is the function of the Grand Encampment, and that has been done."*

On motion of V. E. Sir Wm. R. Whitaker, P. D. Grand Commander, the resolution in regard to uniform, adopted February 17th, was rescinded.

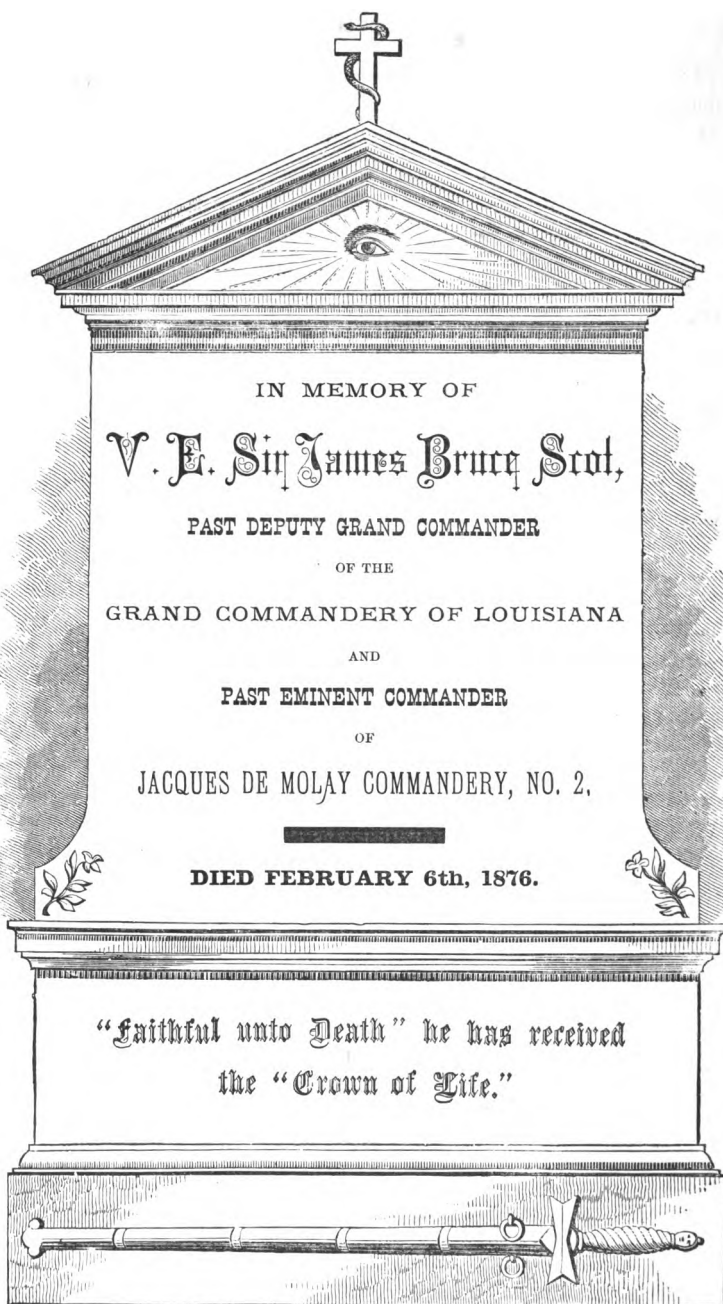
E. Sir Wm. L. Stanford, P. Grand Captain General, offered the following, which was received and laid over for action until the next Annual Conclave:

Resolved, That this Grand Commandery adopt the marks of distinctions for officers as stipulated in General Order No. 1.

The R. E. Grand Commander, with the assistance of R. E. Sir Sam'l M. Todd, then proceeded to and did install Sir George Soulé, as Grand Standard Bearer.

No further business appearing, the R. E. Grand Commandery was closed in AMPLE, SOLEMN AND KNIGHTLY FORM, until the next Annual Grand Conclave, on Friday, February 18th, A. D. 1876, A. O. 758.

G. SONTAG,
Grand Recorder.



APPENDIX.

SERMON,

BY THE REV. HERMAN C. DUNCAN,

Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery, K. T.

Delivered at Saint Paul's Church, corner Camp and Gaiennie Streets, on Saint John's Day, June 24th, 1875.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR :

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."—*Eph. VI—13.*

When philosophers have inquired into the determining causes of modern civilization they have given to the ideas underlining Chivalry a most prominent part. Previous to its rise men had become localized and constrained in their aspirations, and knew nothing but attachment to the banner of the nearest castle. With the rise of Chivalry man's mind expanded and he learned that the destitute and the innocent, claimed his defense, *wherever found*; and then he learned that there was a broader field for contention, of whatever kind, than the petty feuds of rival barons. A little later in the defense of Christianity against attacks of the heathens, in the wars of the Crusaders, the doctrine was established of contention for principle, that is, for a mental conception of right as distinguished from wrong. The order of the Temple then established was founded on this basis.

Christianity was now perceived to be a real thing, and the Church something tangible, and as existant in thought as apart from the professors of its creed. And here I would have you remember, that the word "contention" is not confined to the use of carnal weapons in warfare. I use it not alone in that sense, but also in its more extended one of strife for the mastery, whether by physical force or by mental power. The sword can be wielded as effectually sometimes without shedding of blood, as when bathed in gore to the hilt. The Order of the Temple was founded to insure a military force of men of knightly instincts for the defense of that city Jerusalem, so dear to the heart of the Christian. All knights were to carry lance for the honor and protection of the weak and the innocent. A knight of the Temple was to hold his life in his hand for the honor and defense of Holy Church as well.

But when the Saracen power triumphed and hope of the establishment of a Christian kingdom in Palestine was extinguished, the Order of Knights Templar was not abolished, it was founded on a more abiding basis than that of a soldiery, for slaughter of other soldiery. There was no secret knowledge to be transmitted to future ages, nor had the Order any traditions not recorded on the world's open record.

The perpetuity of some institutions, is to be accounted for on such hypotheses but not so with ours. Why should the Knights Templar recruit their forces after their withdrawal from the Temple, and there was no hope of its recovery? Europe had been drained of recruits for this purpose and initiations to that end were preposterous. No, they had a deeper meaning than this. The ideas underlining the Order did not have their *fruition* at Jerusalem. Its founders built more wisely than perchance they thought. The ideas they gave to men were destined to extend their influence more widely than they could have dreamed. At the first, contention in behalf of the innocent may have meant only the overthrow by sword and lance of the despoiler. But ere long it came to mean, the elevation of the innocent as a model; the acknowledgment of innocence as a thing to be patterned after, revered and sought for. No longer is the man whose right arm hath dealt the most of fatal blows to be esteemed as of necessity the best man, but the purest man is now to be acknowledged as most entitled to the government and rule. The protection of the weak may have meant at first the death of the oppressor; but now it means the elevation of the people, and the acknowledgment of the right of the governed to a voice in their government. The drawing of sword and the carrying of lance in defense of the Christian religion may have meant at first only death to the Mohammedan. In a similar manner did St. Peter understand the Lord's Inquiry, when he was asked as to the arms of the Disciples. But afterwards he came to learn that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal.

The oath of defense of the Knight Templar was a proclamation to the world that Christianity was something worth contending for; that the Church was a tangible body, that could be fought for and established so as to be seen; that the Faith was something more than a pleasing fancy, to be consigned to the care of the sentimentalist and the ascetic; that it was a something worthy of the mental power of the strongest man and most valiant warrior; that for its sake the acutest intellect and best trained disputant might wield his intellectual sword and carry his mental lance; that the Faith was so real a thing that a man might well give his life to it, and for it, if need should be. These are the ideas that give vitality to the Order of Knights Templar, when Jerusalem became a heap of stones.

They are full of life themselves, and they have given life wherever propagated. To them is to be ascribed in a large measure the enlightenment and advancement of what we call Christendom. And it is these ideas that to-day give spirit to our Order, for what but these will explain our organ-

ized existence. We have no secret traditions or private knowledge to give our initiates, as in Masonry. For example, our "being" cannot be ascribed to a love of military organization, for that could be better satisfied in other ways. We do not seek recruits for foreign war, nor anticipate a summons to reclaim the Holy Sepulchre by force of arms. It is the vitalizing ideas upon which the corner stone of our edifice rests that give strength and stability to the structure to-day.

As you would maintain our Order and advance its banners, aye, until they float triumphant over the bastions, against which we are waging war, you must be assiduous in cultivating in your own breasts the tenets of the Order. And remember, Knights, that as the mind is superior to the body, so does a spiritual war exceed in vigor a carnal one. You carry swords to wage a warfare, but that warfare is spiritual. Your arms are emblematic to put you in mind of the fidelity to which you are pledged, and of the chief weapon in a spiritual war, a weapon alone prevalent, a weapon that cleaveth asunder the bone and the marrow, sharp and piercing, the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. You are to be valiant Knights, but this can only be by proving yourselves strong in the conflict and ever ready to meet the foe. Would you not be unhorsed, it is necessary that you see to it that your armor is of trusty steel, well-wrought and truly tempered. To defend the innocent you must be innocent yourself. Purity of thought, purity of speech, purity of deed alone become a Knight Templar. To succor the weak, you must not yourself be weak. Spiritual strength is a portion a Knight must ever seek to sustain him in his spiritual conflict. Without strength his contention will be feeble. Endowed with it he conquers. To defend the cause of Christ, and to contend under the "Sign of the Cross," the Knight Templar must, *if he would fight effectually*, be signed himself with that sign. Christianity invites in her behalf the exercise of manly minds. The Church seeks to have her doctrine investigated by men of mental vigor. She asks for the exercise in her behalf of the keenest intellect. The conflict awaits you, Sir Knights; the lists are prepared. As champions of Christianity the world gazes upon you to behold your faith of what sort it is. Show to the world that you are not unworthy to be dubbed fraters of those valiant Knights of old who esteemed the Faith of so much worth as to give their lives to it, *and for it* when there was need.

REPORT

OF THE

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

ALABAMA.

Fifteenth Annual Conclave at Selma, May 5, 1875; Walter L. Bragg Grand Commander; eight Commanderies present; session, two days.

A *summons* had been issued to the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery, inclusive of Past Grand Captain General, to all Past Commanders who had earned their rank by service in Alabama, and to the officers of the several subordinate Commanderies, to attend the Conclave. Selma Commandery extended a knightly welcome.

Concerning the "Triennial," the Grand Commander speaks as follows:

"The Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, which assembled in the city of New Orleans during the month of last December, was an event of unusual interest and importance to our Order, and I have the honor to report that the Grand Commandery of Alabama was fully represented by the membership on that occasion. In addition to this, a considerable number of prominent and distinguished members of our Order from this jurisdiction, who were not members of the Grand Encampment, were present on that occasion, and contributed to the pleasure which was so much enjoyed by others as well as themselves. There was a large assemblage of the members of our Order, and a renowned metropolis, proverbial for the politeness, courtesy, hospitality and public spirit of its population, was profusely lavish in demonstrations of welcome. None of the visiting members of our Order who were there can ever forget the hospitality, courtesy and kindness with which all were received by the officers of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, the officers of the subordinate commanderies in the city of New Orleans, and the members of our Order in the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana. All the arrangements were superb, and in every respect worthy of those by whom they were inaugurated, and of that great occasion. Every section of our common country was represented, and brotherly love and knightly courtesy prevailed. Without undertaking to enumerate all that was accomplished, I may state that the costume question, which had for

some time been a source of trouble in our Order, was settled to the satisfaction of all concerned, and a digest of statutes and Templar law adopted, which, it is believed, will be productive of great good to our Order."

He announces the death of E. C. Sir Francis J. Barnard, Representative of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, near the Grand Commandery of Alabama.

The work was exemplified by conferring the Orders on a candidate furnished by Selma Commandery.

The following resolution was adopted, on the recommendation of the Committee on the Grand Commander's address :

3. And now, your committee, in making their report on the last address of the R. Em. Grand Commander, beg leave to state that not only your committee, but our entire Order throughout the State, are profoundly grateful to him for his arduous services in the cause of Temple Masonry; and with the highest appreciation of his energy, zeal, intelligence and unwavering devotion to the principles of our Order, we can conscientiously say, "Well done, thy good and faithful servant;" and while expressing our regrets at the loss of a beloved Grand Commander, we congratulate the Grand Encampment of the United States upon securing his valuable services as V. Em. Grand Generalissimo of the highest body of our Order in the Union.

No compliment, but gnerdon for good service.

A banquet and ball concluded the ceremonies. No matters of general interest to the Order were brought before the Grand Commandery.

The report on correspondence occupies the major part of the volume presented to us by the Grand Commandery of Alabama. Of course it is from the pen of Sir Daniel Sayre. It is admirably arranged, and notices Louisiana in a fraternal spirit.

Felix G. Norman, Tuscombina, Grand Commander; Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, (re-elected) Grand Recorder, and re-appointed Correspondence Committee.

CALIFORNIA.

Sixteenth Annual Conclave at San Francisco, April 17th, 1874; Sir Thos. Hubbard Caswell, Grand Commander: ten commanderies represented; session, one day.

We quote the following from the Grand Commander's address :

Since our last Annual Conclave I have issued no dispensation, and in two instances only have I been called upon to make any ruling, or to exercise any of the powers vested in the Grand Commander. In one case I was applied to by a subordinate Commandery for permission to appear in public, and participate in a Fourth of July celebration. At the time the application was made, I was not aware of the regulation of the Grand Encampment of the United States upon the subject. Had I been, I should have denied the request in positive terms. I, however, discouraged such appearance in public, taking the ground that only upon Masonic occasions, and when the other bodies of Masonry should participate under a proper authorization, would a Commandery be justified in a public display. I am happy to say that the Sir Knights composing the Commandery cheerfully acquiesced in the opinion, and did not take part in the celebration referred to, other than as citizens.

The other was solely a question of Templar jurisprudence. It was asked if the proceedings of a Commandery in stated assembly were legal, there being eleven Knights Templar present, only seven of whom were members of the Commandery, the principal officers being included in the number. I decided that the meeting so held was legal, and that the transactions of the Commandery under such circumstances were binding to the same extent as if all present had been members. The constitutional number was more than complete—the Commander, the Charter and his principal officers were present, the assembly was a stated one, and the conclusion, to me, seems unmistakable. It is for you, however, to pass upon this, as well as the other proposition mentioned, and declare what shall be the law in the future.

The finances of the Grand Commandery appear to be in a very healthy condition. This seems to be natural in California.

Sir Charles Fayette Lott offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Officers of, and all the Representatives to, the Grand Commandery of the State of California, be required to appear therein at the Annual Conclaves, clothed in the full regulation uniform of the Order.

Which resolution was, on motion, laid upon the table.

We regret the disposition made of the foregoing resolution.

No report on correspondence. Valuable as Sir Knight Wiggin's report would have been, we regret the occasion of its absence—domestic affliction—more than the loss of the report itself.

Wm. Abraham Davies, Stockton, Grand Commander ; Charles Louis Wiggin, San Francisco, Grand Recorder.

CANADA.

Annual assembly of the Grand Priory, at Ottawa, October 15, 1874 ; W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Grand Prior ; fourteen, out of seventeen, Preceptories represented ; session, one day.

The Grand Prior announced the death of Grand Chancellor V. E. Sir Thomas Bird Harris, which took place on the 18th of August, 1874. He was installed a Knight Templar and Knight of Malta in the Genessee Encampment, at Lockport, New York, in 1854. In 1855 he obtained a warrant from the S. Grand Conclave of Ireland to open an Encampment, to be attached to Barton Lodge, Hamilton, according to the regulations pertaining to that jurisdiction. This warrant was subsequently exchanged for one under the S. Grand Conclave of England and Wales. He presided for eight terms over this Body. In the Prov. Grand Conclave of Canada he held the offices of Prov. Grand Chamberlain, Prov. Grand Prior, Dep. Prov. Grand Commander and Prov. Grand Chancellor, and under the Grand Priory, those of Grand Chancellor and Prov. or District Prior of the Western Division or District of Ontario. He was also appointed by patent, in 1868, to the rank of Past Grand Sub-Prior of the S. Grand Conclave of England and Wales. The Grand Prior says of him :

“By his death a foremost place is vacant in our ranks, a true friend, a brother, has passed forever from amongst us, but whose name will ever be

remembered and respected by every Canadian Templar, as well as by every Mason of whatsoever degree, throughout the length and breadth of this vast Dominion. Rest in peace, our brother and companion, and enjoy the reward of the faithful Soldier of the Cross."

The deaths of M. E. and S. Ex-Grand Master William Stuart, of England, and of the Grand Master Mason and Great Prior of the Templars of Ireland, his Grace the Duke of Leinster, are also noticed.

The Grand Prior regrets that he is not able to yet congratulate the Assembly on the formation of the National Great Priory for the Dominion, but looks upon it as an established fact. The delay was occasioned by the failure of H. R. H., the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master, to call together the Convent General. By the death of the Prov. Grand Commander for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, opportunity was given for extending the jurisdiction of the Grand Priory of Canada over the Preceptories of those Provinces, and now the different Preceptories of British North America, with the exception of the Scottish Preceptory at St. John, New Brunswick, and the Irish one at L'Original, Ont., are all placed under the jurisdiction of the Grand Priory. On the creation of the National Priory, the Grand Prior believes that these two will be induced to join.

A "preliminary" warrant had been granted to open one new Preceptory during the year.

As to candidates for the Orders, the Grand Prior remarks:

"The popular view taken would seem to be that, as Free Masonry is a public institution, we have no right to refuse any one who comes with fair credentials. This is a fallacy. The Order of the Temple, necessarily circumscribed in numbers, is a select brotherhood, and we have no right to admit into it those whom we would not willingly introduce into our own families.

"It must be borne in mind that these Orders are strictly Christian, and based upon the leading doctrines of the Christian religion. It surely ought to be the pride of all its members to raise, not lower, the social standard, and to maintain the Order within its sphere, not by endeavoring to give it the literal character of the "Religious and Military Order," as in the olden time, but by confining ourselves to the place it has now assumed, which the changes of society have rendered necessary, and by practising one of its fundamental principles, charity, towards each other, prove to the world the sincerity of our ties of brotherhood."

The Grand Prior is personally opposed to all public displays, and thinks they detract from the dignity of the Order, and that it is for its best interests to avoid publicity as much as possible. He quotes approvingly, upon this subject, Sir Josiah Drummond's remarks of similar tenor, in the foreign correspondence of the Grand Commandery of Maine.

The following comments on an historical subject will be found of interest:

"Turning for a few minutes to the interesting subject of the recent re-organization of the Order, which has not only become law, but of that law we are so shortly to be the administrators on our own behalf in Canada, it may be well to follow up the remarks in my last annual address, and again revert to some of the objections raised to such reconstructions, and the objects sought by the commissioners in the union of the Great

Priorities of England and Ireland. Amongst these objections is that of the name, "United Religious and Military Orders." Now, the Orders were originally composed of "Military Monks," partaking both of the character of "soldiers and priests," and they had, also, in the Templar Order, a class exclusively clerical, who devoted themselves to the civil and religious affairs of the Order, and took no part in warfare. History informs us that the Orders of the Temple and St. John were, during the Crusades, antagonistic to each other, and frequently engaged in open warfare; but after the suppression of the Templars, their Order, although prescribed by the Pope, still enjoyed possessions in Scotland, and retained, conjointly with that of the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, lands in common, and it was not until the era of the Reformation that the whole possessions of the combined Templars and Hospitallers were declared forfeited to the Crown, on the ground that the services required on oath by the Preceptory were to defend and maintain the Roman Catholic faith. From this union that existed before the Reformation, the name "United Orders" has been adopted. It requires no great stretch of faith to believe that, on their dispersion, many of the members, who we know had joined the reformed religion, may have sought a connection with the Masonic Society, to preserve the memory of their chivalry from oblivion, as we find that after this period the Order of Knights Templar and of Malta were always given together in Encampments connected with Freemasonry; hence, the mistake and confusion of name in styling them, as was formerly the practice, "Knights Templar of St. John of Jerusalem;" whereas, the two Orders are quite distinct.

Some of the best Masonic authorities of the present day repudiate the claim of the Order to be considered the legitimate descendants of the Templars of the Crusades, asserting our Order was first introduced from the continent of Europe in the middle of the last century, when it is well known the old military orders of Knighthood were much prized in the so-called higher degrees of Freemasonry, and which led to the formation of Masonic degrees of Knighthood, the names and historical legends being identical with these old Orders. In this I cannot entirely agree, as I think there appears sufficient evidence to show that the Templar Order was never entirely suppressed, and that their legitimacy has been preserved and handed down to the present time by their connection with other Orders of Knighthood and the Masonic society; for so far as can be collected from Masonic history and tradition, and tradition must not be entirely set aside, an intimate connection had long existed between the chivalric Templars and Freemasonry, represented by the travelling guilds or societies, who worked in stone and wood, and who, under the direction of the ecclesiastical class, the chaplains or clerks of the Templars, constructed the magnificent architectural and engineering works that still exist in Asia and Europe, the admiration of all who behold them. It is a mistake to suppose that the dropping of the word "Masonic" can be held as in any way altering the connection between the Order and Freemasonry. It is not inserted in the title of the Orders in Ireland, Scotland or the United States, and it may not be known that the name "Masonic Knight Templar" was first used at the revival in 1846, on the installation of Sir Knight Charles Kenys Tynte as Grand Master and successor to H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex, when also the control of the "Rose Croix" and "Kadosh" degrees, formerly given in Templar Encampments, was surrendered to the "Ancient and Accepted Rite," a short time previously introduced from the United States of America. At this revival of the Temple, new statutes, as well as changes in the ritual and costume, took place, the former dress being black, the color of Malta, the white mantle, the true badge of the Templar, not having been hitherto worn."

It was voted that \$100 be annually placed at the disposal of the Grand Prior for incidental expenses.

E. Sir Albert Pike, who was present at the assembly, was elected an honorary member of the Grand Priory, with the rank and precedence of a Prov. Grand Prior.

The report on correspondence was submitted by Sir Geo. F. Dartnell. Under the head of Louisiana, Past Grand Commander Hornor's views on the subject of the Trinity are quoted, and declared "worthy of all assent." The reviewer says:

"For the information of Louisiana fraters we add that the declaration signed by candidates in Canada, professes a belief in the doctrine of the Holy and Undivided Trinity."

He did not approve the celebrated Maine resolutions of 1873, and calls Maine's appeal to sister Commanderies "puerile."

Under Mississippi, 1873, we find the following:

"We notice a Cœur de Lion Encampment in this as well as in many other jurisdictions, including England and Canada. The lion-hearted king was never a Templar. On the contrary, he was jealous of and discountenanced the Order. As a valiant "Soldier of the Cross," however, his name is worthy of remembrance by those who now profess to war for Christ against the "Prince of the Powers of Darkness."

The report is brief, courteous and dignified.

W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Grand Prior; Samuel B. Hartman, Grand Chancellor; G. H. F. Dartnell, Chairman of the Correspondence Committee.

CANADA.

Annual assembly of the Grand Priory at St. Catherine's, August 12th, 1875, S. B. Harman, Sub-Grand Prior, presiding; fifteen out of nineteen Preceptories represented; session, one day.

The absence of the Grand Prior, Sir J. B. McLeod Moore, was caused by severe illness, we regret to note. The Grand Prior's address was read by the Grand Sub-Prior. He refers to the difficulties encountered in obtaining action upon the memorial of Canada forwarded to the Convent General of England and Ireland, with reference to the formation of the National Grand Priory for the Dominion of Canada. It appears that the prolonged absence on the Continent of H. R. H., the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, prevented his signature being obtained to the message relating to the petition, and the death of the Duke of Leinster, the Great Prior of Ireland, immediately before the last Convent General met in Dublin, placed difficulties in the way of the transaction of important business. The Great Prior of England, Lord Limerick, assures the Grand Prior, however, that he has no doubt a satisfactory result will be arrived at, at the next Convent General. It is clear from the Grand Prior's address that this continued delay has created great dissatisfaction in the Dominion, and he states that he is aware that total separation from the Order in England has been mooted. He urges very strongly that there should be no secession, claiming that, "Separation would place the Templars of Canada in a very secondary position, as a mere adjunct to the Masonic body, attached to, and tolerated on sufferance only, whereas we are now an integral part of an Order, *Great per se*, desiring a continuance of our connection with the parent stock."

The Grand Prior desires, and contends that they are entitled to hold the position of the National or Great Priority, co-equal with those of the nationalities of the empire, and under the direct rule of our Royal Grand Master.

He announces much discontent and dissatisfaction among some of the preceptories in England at the recent changes in the Constitution; the principal objections being "to the omission of the word *Masonic* in the title of the Order, the abolition of past rank and change in the officers titles." He discusses these questions ably and learnedly, giving a most interesting sketch of the history of the Orders of the Temple and of Malta, and the connection which now binds the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital to the Masonic body. It is unfortunate for the Knights of this jurisdiction that we cannot, for want of space, transfer the whole of this part of the address to our pages.

The death of several prominent members of the Order in Canada is announced. Sir William Mercer Wilson, while Grand Master of Masons of Canada, and District Prov. Grand Prior of Western Ontario, died January 16th, 1875. The Grand Prior says of him "The Grand Master of Canada, Judge William Mercer Wilson, ended his earthly pilgrimage at Simcoe, Ont., on the 16th January of this year, and will be long mourned and remembered by the whole Masonic body in Canada; few have been more esteemed and looked up to as a ruler of the craft, or deserved the high reputation he enjoyed as an upright judge, a loyal subject and a true Mason. He was born in Scotland in 1813, and settled in Canada in 1832. He held the rank of colonel in the militia and did good service during the rebellion, in command of a troop of cavalry. In February 1862, he was installed a Brother Templar in the Richard Cœur de Leon Preceptory of London, Ont., and was subsequently elected E. Commander of the Godfrey de Bouillon Preceptory, Hamilton; was appointed to the rank of Grand Marshal in the former Grand Conclave of England, and held the office of District Prov. Grand Prior of Western Ontario, at the time of his death, a very few weeks before which he wrote to me expressing his anxious wish to fill satisfactorily his office of Provincial Prior, and advance the prosperity of the Order in Canada."

Past Dist. Prov. Commander of the former Grand Conclave, the Rev. Canon Septimus Ramsay, M. A. and Sir Arthur M. Sowden, a Past Grand officer of Grand Conclave, died within a few months of the last assembly of the Grand Priory.

The following information was communicated to the Grand Priory:

At the meeting of the last Great Priory of England, a very important addition to the statutes was made: "That no candidate be received who is a non-resident of the jurisdiction of the preceptory to which he seeks admission, unless he sign a declaration whether or not he has been rejected from any other preceptory whatever, and present a commendatory certificate from the chief officer of the jurisdiction in which he had resided." Attention was also directed to Section 4 of the Great Priory's statutes, and ruled by the Great Prior, that all members of Preceptories in arrears were disqualified from voting in Grand Priory.

In Canada it is the Grand Prior's prerogative to elect his subordinate officers. This results from the enforcement there, at present, of the law of

England and Ireland on the subject. The creation of the National Priory would enable the Grand Prior to surrender this duty to his Grand Body.—It is his desire so to do, and it is one of the reasons why he takes so great an interest in the formation of the National Body. He believes that this change would satisfy the object of his ambition—to see a greater interest taken in the Order. In anticipation of the change of organization he declared that it was not his purpose, unless the Grand Priory expressed a wish to that effect, to alter the roll of the Grand Officers with the exception of filling two vacancies. He pays a deserved compliment to the Grand Sub-Prior Sir S. B. Harman, who had promptly volunteered his services on the death of the late Grand Chancellor, Sir Thomas Bird Harris. The Grand Priory, however, by resolution, requested that he should at his convenience, after the adjournment of the assembly, prepare the roll of officers.

The Grand Priory by resolution requested the issuance of a dispensation for a new preceptory at Chatham, Ontario.

Twenty-five dollars was placed at the disposal of Sir G. F. Dartnell, correspondence committee, for disbursements in relation to his report.

Sir Knight Dartnell presents his second report on correspondence, and when we say that it is the equal of his first, we accord it high praise.—We find the following under the head of Great Britain.

THE CONVENT GENERAL.

Your committee have had no communication from this august body. There has been no meeting since the last report, except one held in Dublin, on 30th October, 1874; but at which, in consequence of the recent death of the lamented Duke of Leinster, little more than routine business was transacted.

THE GREAT PRIORY OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1874.

A meeting was held in London on 11th December, 1874, the Great Prior, the Earl of Limerick, in the chair. From the report of the Council, we gather that the means of ascertaining the actual membership of the Order are deficient. The actual numbers appear to be only about 2,500—that is, of actual paying members returned by Preceptories. There surely must be some error in this, as the Great Prior has jurisdiction not only over England and Wales, but over all her Majesty's possessions except Scotland and Ireland.

A warrant for the "St. Bernard de Clairveaux" Preceptory, Dunnville, Canada, was issued on the 16th of October, 1874.

We find, by an examination of the calendar of the Great Priory of England and Wales, for 1875-6, that there are 132 Preceptories owing allegiance to that Great Body, situated in England and Wales, Australia, Bengal, Bombay, British Burmah, Ceylon, Canada, China, Madras, the Mediterranean, South Wales and the West Indies, there are five unattached to Provinces. Among the latter is the "Diamond in the Desert," in South Africa.

The Great Priory met in London on the 14th of May, 1875. Among other things, the Council reported:—The memorials received from various Provinces and preceptories, relative to proposed alterations in the statutes, having been laid by you before your Council, it has been resolved to recommend a restoration of past rank, provided that such past rank be given only to Great Officers, and Provincial Great Officers, and also to the Great, and National, and Provincial Vice Chancellors and Sub-Masters, these latter having served two years in their respective ranks. To give effect to this recommendation an alteration in the statutes will be proposed at the next meeting of the Convent General.

The joint committee appointed to reconcile certain anomalies in the Ritual with a view to uniformity, by the introduction of one which may be acceptable to both countries, has not as yet made its report. A commissary from Ireland, is, however, at present in London, invested with full powers to effect this object, and the Council anticipates an early settlement of the question.

The following addition to the statutes of the Great Priory was adopted :

"No candidate shall be admitted to ballot for installation or affiliation in any preceptory, who shall theretofore have been, or then is, domiciled or resident out of the jurisdiction of the Province within which he seeks such installation or affiliation, unless he shall have signed a declaration on his obligation as a Master Mason, stating whether or not he has been rejected from any other preceptory whatsoever, and have produced a recommendatory certificate from the Chief Officer of the jurisdiction within which he has theretofore resided."

In amendment to the motion for the adoption of the report, it was moved and carried, by a vote of forty against thirty, as follows: "That the report be adopted, except with regard to the clause relating to the partial restoration of past rank, and that instead thereof, this National Great Priory recommends the Convent General to restore, in its integrity, the past rank affected by recent alterations of the statutes."

Under the head of Indiana, 1875, we find the following:

Alluding to the question of costume it is remarked: "It would be a most desirable consummation if our Canadian fraters would decide to adopt the regulation uniform of the Grand Encampment of the United States, as their out-door costume, and thus make the dress of a Knight Templar in America the same throughout." For the information of our fraters across the line, it may be here remarked that our costume is regarded as traditionally and historically correct, and is so intimately interwoven with our time-honored ritual as to render it impossible to adopt their suggestion without changing the whole form and spirit of our ceremonies. The feeling of our Grand Prior, viz.: that he is "personally opposed to all public displays as detracting from the dignity of the Order," is shared in by the large majority of the fraters in Canada. The desire for some suitable *out-door* costume has arisen from the fact of the visits of several Commanderies "with pomp and circumstance," and brilliant uniforms. It has been felt that on these occasions some distinctive costume might be worn in order that due honor should be done our visitors."

We regret that our proceedings for 1875 did not reach Sir Knight Dartnell in time for notice, and on examination of his report for the preceding year, we observe that he cannot have received our proceedings for 1874.

The following are his concluding remarks: "We cannot conclude our report without expressing regret that we have failed to receive so many, in fact more than a moiety, of the proceedings of the Grand Commanderies of the great neighboring Republic, in time for our review, and say advisedly, from their general excellence, the loss is ours. We fully concur with many of our co-reviewers as to the value of these abridgments to the general reader who may not have time or opportunity for access to the proceedings at large, in enabling him to become generally acquainted with

the onward march of a Christian soldiery, enrolled under the banner of the Temple in defence of Christianity and in succor of the distressed. We again allude with pardonable pride to the respect with which our Grand Prior's addresses are received and largely quoted, and we trust, ere we resume the pen, should we be called on to compile another report, the status of Canada as an Independent National Great Priory, co-equal with those of the Nationalities of the empire, will have been secured, and increased opportunity thereby afforded for cultivating friendly relations with the Templar body at its many 'Head-Quarters.'"

W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Laprairie, Grand Prior; L. H. Henderson, Belleville, Grand Chancellor; G. H. F. Dartnell, Chairman of the Correspondence Committee.

CONNECTICUT.

Annual Conclave at Bridgeport, March 16, 1875; Nathan Dikeman, Grand Commander; ten Commanderies (all) represented; session, one day.

The decease of Sir Cyrus Goodell, Past Grand Commander, and Sir Thos. H. Totten, Grand Generalissimo is announced.

The Grand Commander had decided that—

"Any Sir Knight of your Commandery may move a consideration of a favorable ballot, and it is the duty of the Eminent Commander to order another ballot upon the request of a member, and the result of such new ballot would be the same as though no previous ballot had been taken.

"If a member of a Commandery wishes to withdraw, I think he has the right so to do, although he does not join another Commandery. His withdrawal does not release him from his obligations. He becomes non-affiliate, and thereby forfeits his rights as a member, but is still amenable for his conduct to the Commandery in whose jurisdiction he resides."

The appointment of Sir Joseph P. Hornor as Representative of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut in Louisiana, is announced.

The Grand Commander says:

"The system of representation is becoming quite general in this country, and no doubt has a tendency to unite more closely the bonds of fraternity and interest which connect the several State commanderies, and I think these honors should be distributed more equally, and that no Sir Knight should represent more than one Grand Commandery at the same time. It can readily be imagined that a case might occur where it would be very embarrassing for a person to represent two or more Grand Commanderies."

He makes the following remarks with reference to the Grand Encampment at New Orleans:

"As one of your Representatives I attended the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, at New Orleans in December last. The hospitality—both public and private—tendered by the Sir Knights and residents of that city was unlimited, and was especially noticeable in view of the severe physical, financial and political afflictions which have been visited upon that people during the last decade. Nothing was left undone by them to make our visit one of unalloyed pleasure, and the recollection of it as fragrant as the bloom of their own orange groves. The bringing together of so many men, representing the various interests of our wide-spread country, cannot but have a mutually good effect, and may we not hope that by the friendships there formed, and by the interchange of mutual confidence and hospitality, it may tend, in no slight degree, to re-establish that feeling of good will and common interest which should always exist between all sections of our broad land, and that we may be in fact, as well as in name, United States!"

On the action of the Grand Encampment, upon the subject of uniform, Sir Knight Dikeman remarks:

"Let us congratulate ourselves that this question of millinery, which had assumed an importance almost ridiculous, is at length definitely disposed of, and that the Grand Encampment can now turn its attention to the more weighty matters of the law."

The following is of interest:

"Although Connecticut Templars have always been loyal to the Grand Encampment, yet I think the general sentiment in this jurisdiction has been that our Order would not suffer materially should that Body be dissolved. There is great danger that in the centralization of power in the Grand Encampment, it may assume too much authority, and that the State Grand Bodies may become mere appendages to it. We should jealously guard any infringement upon the rights and prerogatives of Grand Commanderies."

The Grand Commander congratulates the Knights of his jurisdiction upon the harmonious and prosperous condition of the Order in Connecticut.

Upon the decision of the Grand Commander with reference to the subject of certain dimits, the Jurisprudence Committee made the following report, adverse to the Grand Commander's ruling, and their view of the subject was accepted by the Grand Commandery:

"That the suspension or expulsion of a Sir Knight from his Lodge or Chapter, does not, in itself, suspend or expel him from his Commandery, but it deprives him of all rights, benefits and privileges therein, and all intercourse with the Order while under such disability; that striking a Sir Knight from the roll of his Lodge or Chapter for non-payment of dues, or from any other cause, is not equivalent to such suspension or expulsion, and does not affect his standing in the Commandery; and it is only when a striking from the roll follows a previous suspension or expulsion for some Masonic offence that it entails any disability upon a Sir Knight."

We beg to differ. If a suspended or expelled Mason cannot receive the Orders why should he be permitted to retain his position, after having been suspended or expelled in Lodge or Chapter? The Masonic connection must be something, and when a Grand Lodge decides that a suspension for non-payment of dues is a suspension from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, how can Grand Commanders presume to disregard the power that makes law on the subject. In such case, when the Grand Lodge law fixes the status of one suspended for non-payment of dues, how can a Grand Commandery declare that law to be no law? The Grand Lodge may regulate the matter for itself, as in Louisiana, and its decision is final, and cannot be reviewed or its effect destroyed by the Grand Commandery as an appellate tribunal. Grand Commanderies may think some Grand Lodge laws bad, but as Grand Commanderies they cannot unmake or nullify them. We beg attention to the Templar Digest, page 53 (2). It seems to us that this law is directly in our favor, and does not warrant the edict of Connecticut.

Past Grand Commander Sir Daniel Calkins was received and recognized as Representative of Louisiana, Georgia, Maine and Nebraska.

No report on correspondence.

After the close of the session, the members of the Grand Commandery were entertained by Hamilton Commandery of Bridgeport. The Grand Recorder announces officially that they had a splendid banquet.

John G. Root, Hartford, Grand Commander; John W. Stedman Norwich, (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

ENGLAND.

For the information of the Templars of this jurisdiction, we give the names of the Officers of the Temple—the highest and newly created Order connected with Templar Knighthood: The Grand Master is, H. R. H., the Prince of Wales; Great Prior of England and Wales, the Earl of Limerick; Great Prior of Ireland, Marquis Conyngham. By the list before us, we find that there are 23 Knights Grand Crosses in this Order. Sir J. Q. A. Fellows is seventh on the list, being preceded by the Prince of Wales, the Emperor of Germany, the King of Sweden, the Crown Prince of Germany, the Crown Prince of Denmark, Prince John of Glücksburg. He is followed on the roll by the Earl of Limerick. Sir W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Great Prior of Canada, and Sir Knight Fellows are the only Americans who have received the Grand Cross of this Order. The Chancellor of the Great Priory of England and Wales is Sir P. Colquhoun, Q. C., L.L. D. The Chancellor of the Great Priory of Ireland is R. B. DeBurgh, G. C. T. There are 39 Preceptories on the roll of the Great Priory of Ireland. We have no list of the Preceptories in England and Wales.

GEORGIA.

Fourteenth Annual Conclave at Augusta, May 26th, 1875; Sir Samuel Pugh Hamilton, Grand Commander; seven out of eight Commanderies represented; session two days.

In compliance with resolutions passed at the last Annual Grand Conclave, and in obedience to Special Orders, No. 1, of the 25th inst., the Subordinate Commanderies were formed in line on Broad street, in front of the Augusta Hotel, the right resting on Washington street, and marched to the Masonic Hall, received the Grand Commandery and moved to Saint John's Methodist Church, on Green street, where the Liturgy of the Order was performed, and an eloquent and learned oration delivered by Eminent Sir J. Emmett Blackshear, of Macon, Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, to a large and attentive audience.

After the exercises at the church, the lines were again formed and the command returned to the Masonic Hall and was dismissed. The Grand Commandery to assemble again at three o'clock, P. M.

From the address of the Commander, we take the following extracts:

SIR KNIGHTS: To this Grand Commandery has been entrusted the welfare of this Order in Georgia. You are charged with its guidance, and armed with authority to prescribe by statutes, and official power, rules and regulations to keep each knight in strict obedience, and enforce discipline;

to lay down for the several Commanderies the course of conduct they shall pursue, the statutes they shall obey, and the authority they shall enforce. Your power is as ample as your responsibilities are great. On you who form this Grand Body the prosperity of the Order within the State of Georgia depends. If you fail in your duty, the Order suffers in proportion to your neglect—to your unwise or improper course.

You must set the example of—1st. Zeal for the welfare of our Order. 2d. Knightly courtesy and conduct. 3d. Wisdom in legislating for the good of all. 4th. Obedience to authority. 5th. Enforcement of our laws and discipline. 6th. Punctual and strict attention to duty. And by your individual conduct and example to exhibit to your brethren of lesser rank, the evidence that you practice the line of conduct which, as belted knights, you swore to follow; that the cross on your breast and on your sword is your steadfast faith, your hope, your guide; that your daily walk is by that cross governed, and by the help of Him who died on that cross, you try to be, Knights and gentlemen, good Templars and good citizens. This you must do or you have no right to be in *this Grand Body*. You must be either a curse or a blessing to our Order; your position is too high, too conspicuous, to allow you to play the part of non-combatant; you cannot, by reason of the high position your brethren have placed you in, act so as your conduct will not be publicly exhibited, and marked, both in and out of the Temple.

Our Order is not a club-house for the man of the world to loiter, play cards, and kill time in; nor is it a free-and-easy for all good fellows; nor are its halls governed by republican simplicity, and open to men because they can be called good, honest citizens; much less is it a place for the profane, the drunkard, the vicious, or even the ill-mannered. I want each Knight when he casts a ballot to know, he on his knightly solemn word, by agreeing to the admission of any one to our Order, solemnly declares and avows to every Knight of our Order in the world that the candidate which he either proposes, recommends, or by his vote permits to enter the Temple, has all the qualifications of a gentleman, in the full sense of that word, and more, that of a Christian gentleman and a good Mason; that he is one whose acquaintanceship is most desirable. I desire to speak plainly. The institutions of our country are democratic—republican; the maxim is, the people must rule; this maxim, the wisest for political society, the best for government, necessarily commences with the dogma, "all men are equal," therefore the honest citizen is the equal of any, the peer of all. This is as it should be, to give happiness to the people; hence we pride ourselves most justly on our government and its blessings. But our duties to the State, as citizens, our love and obligations as citizens to our country, our pride in its laws and government, has nothing to do with our Order as Templars, or our duty as Knights, no more than our duty as members of an association of Christians, or of gentlemen, has to do with the State and its government.

The Order of Knights Templar is in the highest degree one of exclusive Christian Masonic aristocracy. It is not intended for all worthy Masons or all good citizens. It demands wealth to conduct it, station to support it, discipline and obedience of all its members; it requires the educated, cultivated, intelligent Christian gentleman to appreciate it. It requires congeniality and a soldierly attachment and love for each other in the several members that form a Commandery. It requires pride of character in each knight, and zeal in its officers and members; and it requires as much as either of these, that the several Knights should be as citizens and in private life the very best men and the highest in social life in the community where they dwell, and unless the Commandery is composed of Knights of this class, it were better closed, and ought never to be open or allowed to be formed, unless the officers and members strictly and without any deviation therefrom are governed by these principles. What we want is quality not quantity, *Knights not men*, swords not picks or bludgeons. Knights not members is what we must have, or you had better close the Temple.

I charge you, on your knightly vows, to prevent the throng from entering the Temple of our Order. You are Knights, not multitudes. Access to

our numbers *ought and must be difficult ; aye, most difficult*. See ye to it, and by statutes and authority make it so, and level to the ground the Commandery that disobeys you in this vital matter ; better its ruins to mark the spot where it once stood than its glittering halls thronged with a multitude of men, and only a score of Knights. We want not world shows or circus gatherings ; we wish not long lines of men, but rather a chosen band of Knights, their ranks closed by bonds of love and mutual esteem, their forms marked by knightly presence and bearing, their swords as pure as their faith, their hearts as true to each other as the cross is the hope of them all. These are Templars ; these are those who form a Commandery that will live and prosper ; these, I charge you, alone allow to guard the Temple. Knights of Georgia, by your vows and by your standard, see ye to it, before we break ranks, that this shall be the law of knighthood within our borders.

The Grand Commander regrets that he cannot congratulate his fraters on the prosperity of the Order in Georgia, and takes a somewhat gloomy view of the condition of Templar Knighthood in his jurisdiction. His opening remarks, which we have given above, indicate what he considers necessary under the circumstances. He thinks that "when a Knight voluntarily severs his connection with the Order, our obligations to him should likewise cease ;" and favors the encouragement of life membership. He recommends that the public liturgy and oration at the annual conclaves be dispensed with, but that public parades, inspections and reviews should be continued. He had visited each of the Commanderies of the State, and gives a detailed account of their condition. Sir Knight Hamilton is evidently not afraid of work in the discharge of official duty. He recommended that each Commandery be required to annually return a roll of members in arrears, with the amount due, and that the Grand Commander be directed to order all delinquents to be tried and disciplined at the conclave following Good Friday each year.

The history of the Order in Georgia has for several years been a matter before the Grand Commandery. The following report on the subject was submitted. If brevity could be considered the chief merit in an historical account covering the events of some fifty-two years, this report speaks its own praise :

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar for the State of Georgia :

For several years past action has been had in the Grand Commandery, in reference to the history of the Order. The investigation of it has been committed to the undersigned. To undertake a compilation of the entire history of the Templars, from their first organization to the present time, would be to begin a work requiring the labor of years. But I am given to understand that only the history of the Order in Georgia was intended to be prepared. This is a matter of yesterday, and can be told in a very brief compass.

The first Commandery ever established in Georgia was "Georgia No. 1, of Augusta." It was chartered in 1823, by the style of "Georgia Encampment No. 1." James C. Winter was the first presiding officer, then styled "Grand Commander." John W. Wilde succeeded him in 1825. When the Masonic Bodies of Augusta removed from their old rooms on McIntosh street (now the Presbyterian Lecture Room), to the present Masonic Hall, in 1829, the Encampment ceased to carry on its work, and was actually dormant till 1840, when it was revived under its old charter, and

I was elected Grand Commander—that was the style of the presiding officer till the amendment of the General Grand Constitution in 1856. I held this office for several years, and attended the meeting of the General Grand Encampment, at Columbus, Ohio, in 1847, where our Encampment was recognized, and I sat as its Representative. It has continued ever since under successive presiding officers.

The Commandery (still known as an Encampment) next organized, was that of St. Omer, at Macon. In December, 1851, being then Captain General of the General Grand Encampment, I consecrated that Body, with William S. Rockwell, as first Grand Commander.

St. Aldemar Commandery, at Columbus, and Cœur de Lion, at Atlanta, followed in organization, and their history, with that of the Grand Commandery, founded in 1860, and of the Subordinate Commanderies subsequently formed, is of recent date, and is already spread on your records.

This report would have been submitted at a previous meeting of this Body had I not been under the impression that it was expected to be a full history of the Order. That work I was unwilling to undertake, and had so stated to some of the Grand Officers. It would have required more labor and research than I could afford to devote to it. But the history of the Order in Georgia, as appears from this report, is short and simple. I am perfectly familiar with it, having been knighted in 1826, only three years after the first establishment of the Order here, and having continued among its most active members till the Grand Commandery ceased to meet in Augusta. Then, having passed the scripture limit of human life, I claimed the position of "*Miles Emeritus*," and, in giving this review of the progress of the Order in Georgia, perform probably my last official act as a Knight Templar.

All which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T. GOULD, Chairman.

Two Commanderies competed for a prize offered by the Grand Commander.

After an animated, spirited and zealously contested drill of about one hour, the judges awarded the prize, a beautiful silver *Epergne*, handsomely and elaborately ornamented with Masonic emblems, to the Sir Knights of Palestine Commandery No. 7, Savannah, who seemed as proud and happy as with laurels crowned, from "battle's magnificently stern array."

The Grand Commandery voted to have parade, inspection, review and drill at the next Annual Conclave, and in opposition to the expressed views of the Grand Commander, that public exercises be then held, the liturgy of the Order recited, and an oration delivered.

A vote of thanks was tendered Sir J. Emmet Blackshear for his address, and he was requested to furnish a copy of the same to be printed with the proceedings under review. We very much regret that the request was not complied with.

No report on correspondence.

George Thomas Anderson, Atlanta, Grand Commander ; Charles R. Armstrong, Macon, Grand Recorder.

ILLINOIS.

Eighteenth Annual Conclave at Chicago, October 27th, 1874, James Andrew Hawley, Grand Commander ; forty-two out of forty-five commanderies represented ; session, two days.

The Grand Commander reports that the Orders of Christian Knighthood in Illinois continue to flourish and that harmony prevails.

He announces the death of Past Grand Commander Josiah Hunt, who was also Past Grand Captain General of the Grand Commandery of Missouri.

Two dispensations for new Commanderies had been granted; one dispensation had been granted to a Commandery to act as escort on Decoration Day, and another to perform similar duty at the ceremony of unveiling the statue of Abraham Lincoln. We think both dispensations were mistakes; that such services are no part of Masonic or Knightly service.

The address is very brief, and shows a thorough attention to the business of his great jurisdiction by the late Grand Commander.

The following resolution was adopted on the recommendation of the jurisprudence committee:

Resolved, That it is illegal to confer the Order of the Red Cross upon more than one candidate at the same time.

Perhaps it is so under the law of Illinois, but we should regret to see such law adopted in this jurisdiction.

No case of grievance was reported during the entire year, and the appeals committee say, accurately, that "this is indeed a very satisfactory state of affairs, and a high compliment to Templar Knighthood." The report on correspondence is presented by Sir James H. Miles. It occupies 66 pages of fine print and is an excellent compendium of the proceedings of twenty-eight Commanderies, our own included, containing however very little of comment from the reviewer.

An address was delivered by Sir Charles H. Brower, Grand Captain General upon the Order of the Temple. It is an excellent lecture on the history of the Order, a description and explanation of its emblems, technical expressions and principles, briefly and clearly set forth. We doubt, however, the positive accuracy of many of his statements in the historical portion of his address, and doubt if such expressions as "it is said," and "it is averred," with reference to matters that are of historical importance if true, increase the value of the statements they introduce. We are very much inclined to disbelieve that there is tangible proof of a direct descent of American Knighthood from the Orders of the Temple and the Hospital. Surmises have been accepted as facts, guesses have been taken as verity, and fanciful theories substituted for data, in too many instances in our pedigree, to inspire any undue confidence in the accuracy of the "histories" of Templar Knighthood, which have been mostly circulated.

The address of Sir Knight Brower, deserves, however, great commendation.

Resolution No. 2, of 1858, was amended by the addition of the words we have italicised below:

Resolved, That suspension or expulsion of one who is a Sir Knight under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, from a Lodge or Chapter, shall be deemed sufficient cause for striking his name from the roll, without trial

or notice; but a transcript of the action of the lodge or chapter must first be filed with the Recorder, upon which sentence shall be entered in the Commandery: Provided, that in case of appeals, no action shall be taken in the Commanderies until final action is had upon the matter in the body to which such appeal is taken.

It is lamentable to notice that in the Chicago fire of 1871, all the papers and printed proceedings of the Illinois jurisdiction, and the proceedings and bound volumes of other jurisdictions, in the library of the Grand Recorder, were destroyed. For this reason the Grand Recorder is unable to furnish the proceedings of his Grand Commandery previous to 1870. He requested duplicate copies of such Knights as could spare them, and asks Grand Recorders to forward copies of their proceedings of dates previous to that year.

Hiram Warner Hubbard, Grand Commander; James Hoge Miles (re-elected), Grand Recorder, and (re-appointed) chairman correspondence committee.

INDIANA.

Twenty-first Annual Conclave at Indianapolis, April 27th, 1875; twenty-three Commanderies (all) represented; session two days.

Two dispensations for new Commanderies were granted during the year and the Grand Commander expressed himself as opposed to multiplying Commanderies. In some portions of the State he thinks there are too many. In December, 1874, the State was divided into six districts, for the purpose of inspection, and an inspecting officer appointed for each. The address is brief and mainly confined to local matters.

The reports of the inspectors are admirably prepared and very full, giving in detail the condition of each Commandery, and a tabular statement of each inspection district. The reports occupy nearly twenty pages of the proceedings, almost a page to each Commandery. Their publication cannot fail to be of benefit to the Knights of Indiana.

\$50 was allowed to Sir Charles Cruft, as chairman of the correspondence committee for the past year.

Respecting the visit of the Indiana Knights to New Orleans, on the occasion of the late Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, the committee say: "It would be impossible, within the limits of this brief report, to detail the forms in which the hospitality of our Southern friends was expressed. Everything that knightly courtesy and genuine affection could suggest, was done, to render our stay in New Orleans, an uninterrupted pleasure. When we remember the complications arising from the disorders of the times, the derangement of finance, the exhaustion and discouragement following the war, almost universal in Louisiana, we can not too highly praise the knightly regard for the Northern fraters, which marked the extensive and elaborate preparations made for our reception and entertainment. May we not hope that the mingling of so many fraters from widely separated parts of our common country will have a marked influence in hastening the return of that coming time when the unhappy differences of the past shall be forgotten. If the Sir Knights of

Indiana ever have the pleasure of welcoming to this State their brethren of Louisiana, we will endeavor to reciprocate, as far as we may, their generous and chivalrous hospitalities."

We duly appreciate such compliments from such a source.

In the proceedings we find a report from Dep. Gr. Commander Sir N. R. Ruckle, on the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the institution of Templar Knighthood in Indiana. The celebration took place at Indianapolis and was participated in by delegations of Knights from Ohio, Kentucky and eight Indiana Commanderies, the Grand Commander of Kentucky and a representation of the Past and Grand Past Officers of that jurisdiction, and a representation of the Grand Commandery of Indiana. There was a grand parade and drill at the Exposition Building, after which a banquet and social re-union concluded the labors of the day.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved—That henceforth the Order of the Temple shall not be conferred except upon Knights of the Red Cross who present themselves for the Accolade, clad as a Templar in their own regulation uniform."

The correspondence report of Sir Charles Craft occupies 94 pages of the proceedings, and like his other reviews, is full of merit. He pays due attention to Louisiana proceedings of 1874, and says of Sir Knight Hornor's report of that year that it—

"Is concise and well presented. The eminent reviewer makes no effort at wit, "blarney," fine writing or dogmatism, but strikes directly at *what was done* in the various Grand Jurisdictions, and presents that tastefully and concisely. He sinks the personal pronoun, but still clings to the editorial "*we*," using it, however, rarely. He very courteously quotes approvingly from the address and decisions of the Grand Commander, and proceedings for 1873, of this Grand Jurisdiction.

He styles the address of Grand Commander DeGrange as "a modest and well prepared document."

On the style of correspondence reports in general, our R. E. Frater has this to say under the head of Minnesota:

"A humble protest may be, in this connection, hesitatingly submitted against the terrible avalanche of bastard wit which is rolled down on the unoffending rank and file of Templars annually by the corps reportorial. The general government should straightway pass a statute to provide for the summary imprisonment of any person who perpetrates a witticism which nobody but himself can see! Such a person is dangerous to run at large. It is cruelty to have such things practiced on any one! Slang phrases are admissible, if they strike the point, but from poor wit, "Good Lord deliver us!" These remarks are in no wise intended as any reflection on the eminent reviewer in question, for he really offends in this particular less than usual; but the stricture is a mere thought, which it is as well, in passing, to introduce here as anywhere else. Let there be general reform in this particular.

He does not believe in too much pretense in naming Commanderies, and says, in response to something from Sir Knight Gouley, that—

"The high-sounding name of some renowned Crusader or Knight Errant of ancient chivalry, plastered on a small "forks of a road" Commandery, is like an extinguisher on a tallow dip. It is not, "to put too fine a point on it," in good taste, and is "grievous to be borne." Better far, perhaps, to get to honest local names always, unless they are too *outré* or outrageous

to endure, in which case a *very mild draught* of Templar name might be in order, supplementing it with that of the offensive locality in *parenthesis*."

Under the head of Vermont he says :

"Decoration Day is an occasion unknown to Masonry, and with which Templars have nothing to do."

On the proposal of the Grand Commander of Vermont, to require petitioners for the Orders to affirm, "I have a firm and steadfast belief in the truth of the Christian religion as revealed in the NEW TESTAMENT," he observes :

"The form of the proposed application, and the necessity for such, are open to wide argumentation. It may be held that the three *interrogatories* of the Secret Chamber are possibly searching enough for most consciences, and do not need any "tinkering" by the Grand Encampment or Grand Commanderies, especially the latter. Wisdom does not seem to require any nice distinction in mere shades or dogmas of Christian faith, whether Trinitarian or otherwise. Doubtless a bevy of worthy companions, comprised of an Episcopalian; a Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Congregationalist, an Universalist, Unitarian, etc., and even one who had no fixed ideas on religious matters, save a general belief in and practice of the Christian precepts and preference for the Christian religion, would differ very widely as to what the truths of that religion were, "*as revealed in the New Testament*," and yet might each be worthy to receive the *accolade*. The real test—the old one—practice of the Christian virtues and preference for the Christian religion, may, on reflection, cover the whole ground, especially as Templar Masonry is but a semi-religious military organization. The Grand Encampment, in its late code of statutes, has gone to the extreme limit of requiring the petitioner to state that he is "a firm believer in the Christian religion," which ought to satisfy the most zealous advocate for strictness of test."

We heartily concur.

In his review of the proceedings of the Grand Encampment, he calls the action taken by that Body on the costume question "incongruous."

He has the following to say with reference to the New Orleans reception of Knights Templar from abroad :

"It is due the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, and the whole body of Masonry in that State, to say that the most lavish hospitality was extended to the Grand Encampment and visiting Knights. The authorities and citizens of New Orleans generally, also extended every possible courtesy toward them. Although the Grand Conclave was held in the midst of exciting local troubles, these seemed for the time being to be laid aside; and the opinion may be hazarded, not without reason, that the presence of so many Knights Templar from all parts of the country, mingling for several days with the citizens, exerted some influence in softening existing asperities."

Sir Knight Cruft's report is full and racy, and shows evidence of a very careful examination of the proceedings reviewed.

Nicholas R. Ruckle, Indianapolis, Grand Commander; John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis (re-elected), Grand Recorder; Charles Cruft, Terre Haute (re-appointed), Chairman Correspondence Committee.

IOWA.

Twelfth annual conclave at Keokuk, October 19th, 1875; Ed. A. Guilbert, Grand Commander; 19 out of 24 Commanderies represented; session, three days.

We take the following interesting matter from the Grand Commander's address:

Eleven years ago last June, with many misgivings, but yet with high hopes of future success, the representatives of three Subordinates met at Des Moines, and, after due deliberation, organized "THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF IOWA." Then, there were known to be but *one hundred and thirty* Knights Templar in the commonwealth. Now, we number about *twelve hundred* members of Commanderies. Then, there were but *three* working Commanderies in the State, stationed respectively at Muscatine, at Iowa City, and at Dubuque. The one at Des Moines had become dormant, and that at Keokuk, although warranted by the Grand Encampment officials six months before the Grand Commandery was formed, had not yet been organized. Now, we have *twenty-four* active subordinates, while other embryo Commanderies await the fiat which shall usher them into vigorous life. Then, but the *eleven* Sir Knights who were participants in the act of organization, were legitimately members of the Grand Commandery. Now, the membership of this body has grown to be about one hundred and thirty-eight. Then, and for two or three years subsequently, the formal opening of this dignified Grand Commandery was performed by uncostumed Sir Knights, armed with *cane* and *lath* travesties of the canonical "unhacked swords," and gifted with a thoroughly democratic disregard of titles and surnames, and other conventionalities that was somewhat farcical but very enjoyable. Now, our conclaves are opened by costumed Sir Knights who are gay with plumage and precise in the formalities, and we have grown from a club of familiar associates into a sedate aggregation of casual acquaintances, who meet, oppressed by grave concerns, to legislate for a large and growing constituency.

No grievances had been reported during the year, and no new Commanderies had been formed. The forty mile rule prevails in Iowa. The Grand Commander thinks its repeal will be a benefit. He has made no decision of special interest, and considers that the subordinates are becoming well versed in the jurisprudence of the Order. He remarks:

A means to this desirable end has been the admirable digest of the Templar law issued by the direction of the Grand Encampment, by Grand Recorder Parvin. It is full and explicit and is a most valuable contribution to the literature of the Order. It has been quite generally distributed and as generally studied.

The Grand Commander attended the last Triennial Conclave. He says this of the treatment in New Orleans of the Knights from sister jurisdictions:

The hospitality which reigned supreme in yonder noble but stricken city, was boundless. It was not confined alone to the Masons thereof, but was as general as it was remarkable. While my life-long convictions of the necessity of these Central Bodies as legislative organizations, underwent no change, I was more than ever impressed with the fact that such stated gatherings of members of the grade is a means to the benignant end of a more thorough acquaintance between the Sir Knights of the different States, and that thus they have their uses. The graceful and universal efforts of Grand Commander Hornor of Louisiana, and his officers, to make the episode exceptional and worthy remembrance, cannot be too highly

praised. They deserve and should receive special recognition in each Grand Commandery.

The Grand Recorder, E. Frater Langridge, prepared a report on correspondence. Concerning it, we are sorry to note he thought it his duty to make the following suggestion, which was adopted by the Grand Commandery :

It has occurred to me that the cost of printing the Report on Correspondence, which I have prepared, might be profitably saved and appropriated to an edition of the statutes, probably, at least, with advantage to the Commanderies. The statutes, with the forms, ceremonies, etc., will make about the same amount of matter as an ordinary Report on Correspondence would, and I am willing to let my utterances for the year go to swell the winds and flutter with the leaves of the past months.

Charters were granted to four new Commanderies. The Committee on the Grand Commander's address made the following recommendation :

Your Committee recommend that the action of the Grand Commander in commissioning R. E. Joseph P. Hornor as Grand Representative of this Grand Commandery near the Grand Commandery of Louisiana meets with out hearty approval.

This report was adopted by the Grand Commandery. The Grand Commandery was compelled to decline the courteous invitation of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, to participate in the Knights Templar re-union at Philadelphia, May 30th, 31st, and June 1st, of the current year, the Grand Lodge of Iowa holding its session at that time, many Iowa Sir Knights being desirous to attend the re-union, the subject was left with the incoming Grand Commander, who agreed to take the necessary steps to insure proper arrangements for the excursion.

The forty mile law will come up at the next annual conclave.

The officers elect of the Grand Commandery were installed publicly at the Chatham Square Methodist Episcopal Church, where an oration was delivered by Sir Theodore S. Parvin which would have undoubtedly added greatly to the value of the Iowa proceedings had it been printed. The following was adopted :

The Committee on Knightly Courtesy and Jurisprudence having had referred to them the following question for answer, to-wit: "A Companion petitions for the orders of Knighthood; a Sir Knight protests against the petitioner after the petition is presented and before a ballot is had; the petition is by unanimous consent withdrawn, and the protest is now put upon record. Does this prevent another petition from being presented? If not, and the protestant having removed from the State, can he still object?" Would say, that in their opinion, such proceedings would not bar the applicant from again presenting his petition, and the objector having removed from this jurisdiction, would have no right to make further objection, and if made, it might be properly disregarded.

A resolution was adopted to inform the Sir Knights at whose homes the Grand Commandery might assemble hereafter, that banquets would not be expected at the annual conclaves.

A grand ball at the Opera House and a sumptuous banquet followed the conclusion of the session.

An interesting biographical sketch of Past Grand Commander Guilbert, by C. Childs, with a fine portrait, concludes the proceedings. No correspondence report.

Ozias Phelps Waters, Mount Pleasant, Grand Commander; William Baker, Muscatine (re-elected), Grand Recorder; T. R. Ercanbrack, chairman Correspondence Committee.

KANSAS.

Seventh Annual Conclave at Leavenworth, May 5th, 1875; Thomas J. Anderson, Grand Commander; five out of six Commanderies represented; session, one day.

The Grand Commander says :

The past year has been a memorable one in the history of Kansas. It is not necessary to record at length here the misfortunes with which we have been Providentially afflicted, and by which our fortitude has been so sorely tried. Suffice it to say that a severe and long continued drouth, aggravated by an almost Egyptian plague of grasshoppers, has left the State in anything but a generally prosperous condition. Hope that survives the severest disasters still remains with us, however, and we have learned the sweet uses of adversity, "which ever like a foul and loathsome toad, bears yet a precious jewel in his head." It will not profit us to bemoan the past; it does become us as brave men, firmly trusting in the unfailing care and mercy of the Deity, to cheerfully and trustfully face the future. Notwithstanding our financial embarrassments, the year has been in this State a prosperous one for our Order. Two new Commanderies have been organized under favorable auspices, and with promise of future usefulness and distinction.

Meyer's tactics and drill have been adopted by the Kansas Knights. The Grand Commander thinks this system "bids fair to become the standard work."

Of the visits of the Kansas Knights to New Orleans, at the Triennial Conclave, the R. E. Frater remarks :

Arriving at New Orleans we were shown to our quarters by Sir Knight-Read. We were cordially received by Sir Jos. P. Hornor, Grand Commander of Louisiana, and his efficient corps of assistants. Between the meetings of the Grand Encampment and the various entertainments provided by the resident Commanderies of New Orleans, the week was spent in one entire round of pleasure. To the Sir Knights of Indivisible Friends, Jacques de Molay and Orleans Commanderies we were placed under special obligations for their true genuine Southern hospitality. I think I but express the sentiment of the entire Kansas delegation when I wish them a speedy return to genuine peace and renewed prosperity.

The grand parade and review was a magnificent spectacle, never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it, and, barring the dust and extremely long line of march, was a great success. It seemed as if the entire population of the Crescent City had turned out to greet us. At night the city was beautifully illuminated and the entertainment given at Odd Fellows' Hall, Grunewald Hall and Exposition building were unequalled. The grand parade and review, however, should never take place until the business of the Grand Encampment is concluded, as it materially interferes with the deliberations and destroys the interest in the proceedings after this important display is concluded. We left New Orleans and the Nineteenth

Triennial Session of the Grand Encampment of the United States on December 7th, with many regrets at not being able to prolong our visit to the "Sunny South."

The following report was submitted by Sir W. O. Gould for the Correspondence Committee.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that proceedings of all but two or three of the Grand Commanderies with which we are in correspondence have been received by your Committee.

We have perused them with much pleasure, and had made considerable progress towards compiling the usual report, when private business coming in conflict we were obliged to lay it aside, and did not expect to be able to be present at this Conclave. Our report is incomplete; and in consideration of the resolution which has been adopted, to print the Constitution and Digest of Templar Law as revised by the Grand Encampment in the Proceedings of this year, and, as that will require considerable space, we would respectfully recommend that the Report on Correspondence be omitted for this year.

The absence of Sir Knight Gould's report is a real misfortune.

Orders to the Knights of the jurisdiction to conform to the Meyer's tactics and drill with an amendment were re-affirmed by the Grand Commandery.

In the Manual of the Sword, wherever the commands "Handle Swords," "Draw Swords," "Carry Arms," occur, omit the first and last, and use only the command Draw Swords, explaining the movement as follows:

DRAW SWORDS.—*Two Motions.*

At the command Draw (1st motion), seize the scabbard with the left hand without raising it, at the same time grasp the hilt of the sword with the right hand. (2d motion), draw the sword about six inches, or so far that the right arm will be at ease directly across the body.

DRAW SWORDS.—*Three Motions.*

At the command Swords (1st motion), draw the sword extending it and the right arm in a straight line 45° to the right front and above the horizon. (2d motion), bring the right hand near the helmet, at the same time, holding the hilt between the thumb and two fingers, drop the sword blade into the hollow of the right arm. (3d motion), drop the right hand perpendicularly, nearly to the thigh, the elbow a little bent and well back against the body, the edge of the sword to the front, the fingers of the left hand embracing the scabbard with the arm extended at ease.

John L. Philbrick, Doniphan, Grand Commander; Erasmus T. Carr, Leavenworth (re-elected), Grand Recorder and appointed Chairman Correspondence Committee.

KENTUCKY.

Twenty-eighth Annual Conclave at Paducah, May 12, 1875; Hiram Bassett, Acting Grand Commander; fourteen, out of fifteen, Commanderies represented; session, two days.

Grand Commander James A. Beattie was unable to attend the Conclave. His report was presented by the Acting Grand Commander. He had granted one dispensation for a new Commandery, and had declined to issue

two for a like purpose. He believes there is a growing tendency in his jurisdiction to multiply Commanderies far beyond all necessity.

He had decided that a Commandery by-law prescribing ineligibility to vote or hold office, on account of non-payment of dues, was illegal.

He refers to the death of Sir John M. S. McCorkle, Past Grand Master, and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, referred to in our review of the Kentucky proceedings of 1874. The report is brief and confined to local topics.

Sir L. D. Croninger, Grand Recorder, being necessarily absent from the Annual Conclave, the Grand Commander had appointed Sir William G. Stone, Grand Recorder *pro tempore*, until the office should be filled at the Conclave. Sir Knight Stone was subsequently elected Grand Recorder, but afterward resigned the station, and in December last, Sir L. D. Croninger was appointed to the vacancy.

The Grand Commandery of West Virginia was officially recognized in accordance with the recommendation of the Correspondence Committee.

One thousand dollars was donated to the Widow's and Orphans' Home and Infirmary. The Chairman of the Correspondence Committee received one hundred dollars.

The Grand Commander was requested to prepare a code of trial by charges.

The prize banner, presented by Sir Henry C. Warren, was received with appropriate remarks.

Immediately after the close of the Conclave, the lines were formed, and after satisfactory inspection and review of the various commands by the Grand Commander and his staff, Paducah No. 11 and Henderson No. 14 competed for the banner. The committee, consisting of seven, had much difficulty in arriving at a decision. Four were in favor of Paducah Commandery, and three decided for the other. Paducah Commandery, therefore, is champion for the year.

The correspondence review is again presented by Sir Charles Rankin Woodruff. In this report we find the following relative to Templar Knighthood in Arkansas. It bears date of March 8, 1875 :

"Owing to the disturbed and troubled condition of the country, there has been no Conclave of our Grand Commandery since December, 1872; but as peace and quiet again prevail throughout our land, our young Grand Commandery will press onward.

"We have four Subordinate Commanderies with a membership of upwards of two hundred. Sir Luke E. Barber, Grand Commander; Sir John W. Rison, Grand Recorder—address, Little Rock, Arkansas.

"Courteously yours,

"JOHN W. RISON, *Grand Recorder*."

In his notice of Louisiana he says that the annual address of Grand Commander DeGrange, "is an instructive document."

Of Sir Joseph P. Hornor's work as Chairman of this Committee he remarks that "he presents a report in which twenty-six annuals are reviewed in his usual clear and outspoken manner."

We find nothing of marked interest to select from this very readable report, it being composed mainly of extracts. We presume the distinguished reporter was so busily engaged in preparing for the brilliant receptions, parades, banquets, etc., of December, that but little time was left on his hands, in which to become satirical, argumentative or dogmatic. However, the Grand Commandery removed him from his elevated place in the chair Reportorial to the position of Grand Commander; a compliment appearing the more graceful as the Sir Knight had formerly been in supreme command for two consecutive terms. Every Templar belonging to the grand army that invaded New Orleans during the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment will bear enthusiastic testimony to the wisdom of this choice of Grand Commander; and the happy events which occurred during "Templar week" in the Crescent City have endeared the officers and members of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, the gallant Sir Knights and their lady and gentleman friends to thousands of manly and chivalric hearts now dispersed throughout the length and breadth of the land. The Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, with the Sir Knights under their command, were guests of the "Orleans Dramatic Association," who generously threw open their convenient and elegant apartments for our headquarters; and this spontaneous act of cordial hospitality on the part of the dignified gentlemen composing this exclusive Association is but one among many incidents of "welcome to the Knights Templar."

Sir Knight Woodruff's report is mainly devoted to the proceedings reviewed by us last year. It is carefully prepared, comprehensive and discriminating.

Hiram Basset, Millersburg (re-elected), Grand Commander; L. D. Croninger, Covington, Past Grand Recorder, appointed to fill vacancy; Charles R. Woodruff, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

MAINE.

Twenty-fourth Annual Conclave at Portland, May 5, 1875; John W. Bal-lou, Grand Commander; twelve Commanderies (all) represented; session, one day.

The death of Sir Edmond A. Chadwick, Past Grand Captain General, is announced by the Grand Commander.

On the subject of excursions, the Grand Commander says:

In my address before this body one year since, I took occasion to commend the practice of exchanging civilities among the different Commanderies, stating it as my belief that a better knowledge of each other as individuals and organizations would increase our appreciation and respect for our institution and the members of it. In this opinion I have been strengthened by the experience of the past year; for I believe there has never been a time in the history of this Grand Commandery when Knightly hospitalities have been to a greater extent or more liberally dispensed than during the period mentioned, and the results for good are shown in increased interest in our meetings, a personal friendship among members of the different Commanderies, a consequent lively interest in the welfare of sister bodies, and in unanimity of sentiment throughout the jurisdiction.

The Grand Commander lays himself open to criticism in commenting upon a visit paid by a body of Knights from New Brunswick to Portland Commandery on St. John's Day. He hopes that such meetings between

bodies from "young Canada" and "young America" "may be but the forerunner of a stronger and more permanent union, which shall eventuate in these people of one blood and language, one in everything that goes to make a great nation, coming together under one government as one people, to manage and control the commercial interests of the Western world."

If this is not politics, what is it? Besides, one remembers that the Grand Master, to whom our New Brunswick fraters look as their Knightly Chief, is no other than the heir apparent to the British throne. Loyalty, as the Prince of Wales said at his installation as Grand Master of Masons, is one of the "two watchwords" of the craft. Loyalty is the duty of the Templar as it is of the citizen.

The Grand Commander's account of the interchanges of courtesies and hospitality among the Templars of his jurisdiction is very pleasant. His visitations seem to have been attended with every incident that could make them agreeable. Our Maine fraters evidently enjoyed themselves during the last year of his administration, and the Grand Commander bestows warm praise upon the perfection of their work and the harmony that pervades their ranks. He has evidently labored zealously among them, and can retire from his high office with the satisfaction of having accomplished much good in it. Of the visit of the Representatives of Maine to the Triennial in New Orleans, our R. E. frater says:

The country through which we passed was not probably the fairest portion of the "sunny South;" and while we were led to admire the *extent* of our "glorious country," we were not sorry to arrive at our place of destination. • On our arrival in New Orleans, all past sorrows were forgotten in the warmth of our reception and the generous hospitality which was everywhere accorded us. The "Queen City of the South" put on her sweetest smiles and donned her gayest attire. Delicious fruits, luxuriant foliage and beautiful flowers everywhere met the eye. Parades, banquets, receptions and merry-makings generally, were the order of the day; in short, everything to make our stay in the "Crescent City" agreeable was done for us, even to the suppression of violent political disputes, for which our Louisiana friends are so justly celebrated. The weather was lovely beyond description—more like our pleasantest days in June, here in New England, than anything else I am reminded of.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the kindness and consideration of our hosts; and in behalf of our delegation, we wish to express our entire appreciation of and our thanks for the many favors received, with the sincere desire that we may sometime in our life be fortunate enough to make some one from New Orleans as happy as we were made by these Knightly gentlemen of this beautiful city of the South.

Sir Ira Berry submits the correspondence report. Under the head of Louisiana, he observes of Grand Commander Hornor's address at the Conclave of 1875:

"While we do not assent to his views that there is no law of the Grand Encampment as to uniform, we see no reason why it might not be left to the control of the Grand Commanderies."

He speaks very pleasantly of our review of last year. He devotes five pages in his notice of the last session of the Grand Encampment, to Grand Master Fellow's discussion of the uniform question and the complications

arising therefrom. To say the least of it, our Maine frater's style is decidedly energetic, and possibly not in all respects in accordance with what is generally regarded as good taste—at least the concluding part of his comments seem out of place in the report of one so generally courteous as Sir Knight Berry. It is about time we cease this discussion about our niforms. It has made more bad feeling during the last few years, than all the other difficulties which have arisen in the immense Templar army of the United States. Perhaps there was once something of importance involved in it on the matter of discipline, but as the law now stands, we think the past might as well be buried. We take the following from the "parting words" of Sir Knight Berry :

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT. At times it has seemed to me that there was an undue tendency to allege enmity to the Grand Encampment as the motive of any criticisms upon it, and this should be avoided. The feeling of all-giance to that body is general and strong. The Grand Commanderies cheerfully pay for its support an annual tax of more than two thousand dollars, and they look to it as the guardian of their rights and the arbiter of their differences. This feeling of loyalty should not be questioned, nor the idea of enmity held up till it is made manifest by acts. And care should be taken that nothing should be done to impair confidence in it. It is capable of great good—and so its power, if perverted, might do great injury. It is worth preserving, were it only for bringing together at its sessions people from all parts of the country. A part of the mission of masonry with us now, is to heal the wounds and allay the sectional hostility and bitterness created or intensified by the terrible strife our country has gone through.

One of my most gratifying remembrances is that of having tried, during the war, to keep the fraternal chain whole by sending our proceedings to the Grand Bodies in the Confederate States, and I embrace this opportunity to return thanks to Past Grand Master Samuel M. Todd, of Louisiana, for his aid in the effort. With the approbation of our Grand Officers I forwarded the proceedings to his care at New Orleans, and he got them passed through the military lines and dispatched on their way as directed, paying the postage himself, and declining to receive it back. How many reached their destination we cannot know, but it is pleasant to remember that the trial was made in good earnest, and to know that the fraternal obligation *was* regarded, both at the South and the North, and did much to alleviate suffering and give aid and comfort to brethren in need. Keep the links of that chain bright.

The whole corps of reviewers will regret that our E. Frater has abdicated his seat from upon the editorial tricar. His report is full of interest and generally admirable.

Seth C. Gordan, M. D., Portland, Grand Commander ; Ira Berry, Portland (re-elected) Grand Recorder ; Stephen Berry, Portland, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

MARYLAND.

Special conclave at Baltimore, March 29th, 1875, to install the officers of the subordinate Commanderies for the ensuing year.

It was resolved that an invitation be extended to Sir Robert Morris to address the Knights. "On the subject of his recent discoveries in connec-

tion with the Order in the Holy Land. That he be the guest of the Grand Commandery during his stay in Baltimore."

Fifth annual conclave at Baltimore, May 10th, 1875; Edward T. Schultz Grand Commander; six Commanderies (all) represented; session, three days.

We find the following in the address of the Grand Commander:

All who have given any study or reflection upon the nature of the various branches of our Order, must admit we have entirely too much legislation in our Grand Bodies, and almost conclude it would be better had we no Grand Constitutions or Laws other than the landmarks, and what are known as the Ancient Regulations and Usages of the Order.

This is a curious suggestion. If we had no other guide than the "landmarks," and no half dozen Masonic scholars agree as to precisely what they are, it might be fancied that we should be at a loss for rules to govern our organization.

The expression—"Ancient Regulations and Usages of the Order"—may be used by our R. E. Frater with reference to the Craft or to the Knightly Orders. Either way, there are many of the Ancient Regulations and Usages, the enforcement of which would be sufficient to break up either Modern Masonry, or Modern Templar Knighthood. The more definite we make our laws the better. There is no need of over legislation, but we need modern legislation to meet the exigencies of modern times.

The Grand Commander very properly suspended the charter of a Commandery for inattention to duty, negligence in assembling, deficiencies in the records, and great apathy. Well done. In another Commandery, owing to the incompetency of the Eminent Commander, no work had been done, and but few assemblies had been held. The Grand Commander felt constrained to arrest the charter. Subsequently, on application of the members, the charter was restored, a dispensation was issued for a new election of officers, and the body is now on a good footing. Possibly, a similarly good result might have been attained by a deposition of the Eminent Commander without taking away the charter.

The Grand Commander decided that a Commandery could not receive an application for the Orders from a companion member of a Chapter in Wisconsin, the applicant being an officer in the United States Navy. He held:

That although persons in the regular Army or Navy claim residence in any part of the country where they may be at the time stationed, yet when this Companion became a member of the Chapter in Wisconsin, the jurisdiction of that Chapter became his Masonic home, and without the consent of the Commandery nearest that residence his application could not be received. Learning subsequently that the consent of the Commandery in Wisconsin had been repeatedly asked without eliciting any response, and thinking possibly I had erred in my opinion, I reviewed the decision and issued my dispensation to allow the reception of the application, and the conferring of the Orders if the applicant was found worthy, it having been represented to be a case of emergency. I report in full the facts in this case for your consideration, for upon reflection I am constrained to believe my first opinion to have been the most correct.

He decided that—

The By-Laws of a Commandery prohibiting members, in arrears for dues, from voting for officers, or from holding office was illegal.

The following seems peculiarly mild :

I feel it my duty to report to you the following :

The Eminent Commander of a subordinate Commandery being present as a visitor in another Commandery, when an official decision was promulgated, subsequently refused to be governed by said decision in his own Commandery, and permitted it to act under a By-Law that had been pronounced illegal by your Grand Commander.

I do not refer to this case with any desire whatever to have the Eminent Commander censured, but that you may authoritatively decide whether or not an edict or decision is binding on every Sir Knight, whenever and how-ever it may have come to his knowledge

The Eminent Commander referred to, it is clear, knew the law. It is clear that he refused to obey it. It is clear that he should have been suspended from office, and that charges should have been preferred against him before the Grand Commandery. It was not a case for censure. It was a case for punishment.

The appointment of Sir Knight Hornor, as representative of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, at Louisiana, was announced.

The Grand Commander is opposed to too much rotation in office, believing that practice alone makes perfect, and that it is impossible for any one, in a single term, to become as efficient as he might by longer service. He holds that frequent changes of officers leads to too much excitement prior to, and at elections. He warns his jurisdiction against making to many Masons and Templars, and protests against the haste with which candidates are hurried through the different degrees.

A well deserved vote of thanks was tendered to Sir Herman L. Emmons, Jr., for the efficient manner in which he had filled the position as Chairman of the Correspondence Committee ever since the formation of this Grand Commandery.

The constitution was amended to provide that no person should be eligible to office in a Grand Commandery, except a past or present Eminent Commander, at the time a member of a subordinate Commandery working under the Grand Commandery of Maryland.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, referring to the decision of the Grand Commander in relation to applications from officers of the United States army and navy, came to the conclusion that there was no necessity for requiring the consent of a Commandery working in the jurisdiction where the applicant's Chapter is situated, but regarded it as an act of courtesy that the Grand Commander should withhold his dispensation, when desired in such cases, until the consent of the Commandery nearest the applicant's Chapter had been asked.

The Grand Master had made the following decision :

Question 3.—If a Commandery in the city of Baltimore could receive applications from Companions residing in Hagerstown, pending the arrest of

Charter of Jacques de Molay Commandery, in whose jurisdiction the Companions reside f

Held it could not. Jacques de Molay Commandery is simply in a state of suspension (not extinct); that suspension can be removed at any moment and it would not therefore be right or proper to take material that properly belongs to its jurisdiction.

Upon this matter, the Jurisprudence Committee gave it as their opinion that, until the restoration of the Charter, applications could be made in such cases to the nearest Commandery of the jurisdiction.

The Correspondence Report is from the pen of Sir Herman L. Emmons, Jr. Under the head of Louisiana, he refers to our report of last year, and states that we "think a Templar should not only become a Christian but a Trinitarian." We have never advanced such an opinion. Our predecessor, Sir Knight Hornor, has advocated that view, in common with many others; we however dissent.

In taking leave of the corps reportorial our Maryland frater gives us a report prepared according to his ideal as set forth in the following valedictory:

The necessity for more time than has been at his disposal to recuperate energies severely taxed in the arduous duties of an active professional life, renders it imperative that the Chairman of your Committee should be relieved, at this time, from further service in that capacity.

In presenting his fifth and last Report on Correspondence, a feeling of relief from responsibility is blended with one of regret, that he must part company with those courteous and talented gentlemen who compose the reportorial corps.

Since the formation of this Grand Commandery the perusal of the various Reports on Correspondence has been a source not only of educational profit to the writer, as a student of Templar literature, but of genuine pleasure, in observing the masterly manner and method, and elegance of diction and style, with which the various topics under discussion have been treated.

Believing that the principal duty of the Reporter is to fully inform his fraters in this jurisdiction as to what is transpiring in the great Templar world around them; to collate for their use well settled principles of Templar jurisprudence; to use every effort to establish uniform regulations, practice and work, and to cement those kindly feelings and fraternal relations which should ever exist among the members of our mystic brotherhood, his labors have been mainly directed to the accomplishment of those objects; and he has, therefore, only ventured opinions upon mooted questions, when he believed they would successfully stand the ordeal to which they would be subjected, when submitted to the scrutiny and criticism of those experts in Templar Law and usage to whose custody have been committed these Reports on Correspondence.

Thoroughly imbued with the great value of those Reports, when prepared with the care which their importance demands, he confidently believes that their existence will be co-eval with that of the Order, and that their influence for good will be incalculable.

Thanking the Grand Commanders for the honor conferred by their respective appointments, and with a courteous farewell greeting to his confreres in other jurisdictions, the Chairman of the Committee respectfully submits his Report.

William T. Adrean, Baltimore, Grand Commander; Charles T. Sisco, Baltimore (re-elected), Grand Recorder; F. J. S. Gorgas, Baltimore, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Semi-annual Assembly at Boston, May 19th, 1875 ; Charles A. Stott, Grand Commander.

The Grand Commander attended the Grand Encampment at the last Triennial Conclave at New Orleans. He says :

We found the Templars of New Orleans fully awake to the importance of the task they had taken upon themselves of entertaining the members of the Grand Encampment and Subordinate Commanderies who were to be in New Orleans during the week. They were unwearied in their attentions to the Templars of the country, and the many pleasant acquaintances made and friendships formed will long be remembered with pleasure. Hospitality, one of the grand characteristics of our Order, was most fully exemplified by the Knights of New Orleans.

There is one thing in connection with the sessions of the Grand Encampment which I think has a tendency to disturb and in a great measure interfere with its business, and that is, the coming of so many Subordinate Commanderies to the place of the Triennial meeting. They come solely to have a good time, and to that end the Templars where the Grand Encampment is held lay out programmes of pleasure for their entertainment, which are sure to call away members of the Grand Encampment, perhaps at just the time when they should be attending to the business of the session.

I think it was very generally conceded at New Orleans that it would be much better if the Grand Encampment could be relieved of this outside pressure, and a vote was passed restricting such parades in the future.

The deaths of E. Sir George Summerfield, Grand Prelate ; R. E. Sir John Flint, Past Grand Commander, and Sir Eben F. Gay, Grand Sentinel, were announced.

The Grand Commandery voted that no diplomas, except those prepared under its authority, should be signed by the Grand Recorder or issued by Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander was authorized to contribute \$100 toward the fund for the benefit of the widow and children of the late E. Rev. Sir George S. Noyes.

The work of the Order of the Red Cross was exemplified before the Grand Commandery by Boston Commandery ; which Commandery invited the members of the Grand Body to a collation after the close of the Assembly.

Sixty-fifth Annual Assembly at Providence, October 27th, 1875 ; Charles A. Stott, Grand Commander ; 28 out of 29 Commanderies represented ; session, one day.

It was voted that the Subordinate Bodies should pay five dollars, instead of four, to the Grand Treasury, for each Knight created ; \$100 was donated to the family of Past Grand Master Robert Lash. There is no report on Correspondence, in accordance with the usual custom in Massachusetts with reference to this subject. We find the following in the Grand Recorder's report :

The doings of the several Grand Commanderies, as discussed by Committees on Foreign Correspondence, does not come within the scope of this

report. We are called singular in this respect, but we certainly have the merit of not furnishing a medium for individual unkindly criticism of our neighbors.

The Grand Commander appropriately and feelingly alluded to the decease of Past Grand Master Sir Winslow Lewis, M. D. The jurisdiction was divided, by order of the Grand Commander, into six districts, for visitation and inspection. An Eminent Commander having abandoned his Commandery, under peculiar and unfortunate circumstances, and it not appearing probable that he would return, the Grand Commander issued a dispensation for an election to fill the vacancy thus created. At the close of the election of officers, the Grand Commandery participated in a collation provided by the Grand Commander. The business of the Grand Commandery was almost exclusively of a purely local character and affords little room for comment.

Henry W. Rugg, Providence, Grand Commander; Alfred F. Chapman, Boston (re-elected), Grand Recorder.

MICHIGAN.

Nineteenth annual conclave at Kalamazoo, June 1st, 1875; L. H. Randall, Grand Commander; thirty Commanderies (all) represented; session, two days.

The address of the Grand Commander is brief and refers mainly to local topics. He agrees with his predecessor, Sir Knight Garfield, in thinking that Michigan has Commanderies enough for the present; recounts the experience of the Michigan delegation to the Triennial Conclave at New Orleans, and the incidents by the wayside, on occasions when they were invited to eat, drink and refresh themselves by Knights whom they met on their pilgrimage. The finances of the Grand Commandery are very much improved by reason of the collection of the extra assessment provided for at the last session. He urges the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution, recommended by his predecessor, that the dues of the Grand Body should be raised to the sum of one dollar per year per member. He characterizes the address of Grand Master Fellows before the Grand Encampment as "able and exhaustive." The correspondence report is by Sir William P. Junes, the Grand Recorder. Of the 126 pages of the Michigan volume, the correspondence review occupies 98, and it is not only the larger, but the better part of the book. Sir Knight Junes makes this point on Sir T. S. Parvin of Iowa, in his review of the proceedings of that State:

In referring to what Sir Sherman says in his address, of the celebrated General Order No. 3, issued by Grand Master Fellows, Committee [Sir Knight Parvin] says:

"That in their judgment they are, in sentiment, disloyal to the Grand Encampment, and discourteous to its recognized Chief, and this Grand Commandery has too much self-respect, and too high a regard for the good and public welfare of the Order, to join in any such unholy crusade."

Hon. Sir Knight Parvin must have wished himself in Iowa instead of

New Orleans, when he thought of what *he said*, and listened to what the Grand Encampment *said*, on the costume question.

It is hard to tell who are the disloyal; those who obeyed the Order, or those who stuck by the "main question?"

When, Oh! when, will the powers of the General Grand Encampment of the United States be defined so as to avoid such "little unpleasantnesses," as have arisen under this self-same General Order No. 3.

Under the head of Kentucky we find the following, referring to Sir Knight Woodruff's correspondence report:

He quotes quite freely from P. G. C. Spaulding's address, which he calls "excellent." On the following amendment, to the Constitution, viz: "All applicants for membership, or for the several Orders of Knighthood, shall be members of a Lodge and Chapter at the time of making such application; and are required to be and remain affiliated with a Lodge and Chapter; and if any Sir Knight shall be demitted from a Lodge or Chapter and shall voluntarily remain non-affiliated from either of said Bodies for the space of twelve months, he shall be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Knighthood," He says:

"This amendment to the Constitution, it strikes us, is unnecessary, and indeed contrary to Templar usage, if not in direct contravention to the spirit of the law."

Your Committee can only say the amendment works well, in this Jurisdiction, and would in Kentucky if it were tried there (we think). In Michigan we think best to have Knights Templar active members of Subordinate Bodies, no drones anywhere about the Temple is our motto.

We are with Sir Knight Junes.

Under Louisiana, he quotes in full Grand Commander DeGrange's remarks on the "State of Maine" and rejoices that Louisiana utters sentiments so worthy of commendation. Sentiments that all our Northern States would do well to follow out, and sentiments that ought to put to blush the small minority that have persisted in forcing upon Templar Masonry, the doing "of the greatest injury to the greatest number."

Concerning the Triennial at New Orleans Sir Knight Junes says:

"Louisiana Sir Knights achieved great honor and awards for their noble, generous and self-sacrificing hospitality to one and all who attended the Convocation; and our sister, Ohio, has to work hard to sustain herself three years from now, or our sister Louisiana will not be equaled.

One single sentiment prevailed among all visiting Sir Knights and that was that to Louisiana and her Sir Knights are due exceeding much praise for the kindness shown to all, and to her endeavors to make the Convocation more than ordinarily pleasant.

Under the head of Ohio, he advocates a "new departure" with reference to the physical qualifications of Masons. He thinks our present rule is disgraceful and barbaric, and should be blotted from every branch of Masonry. Perhaps we are prejudiced in favor of the good old way, but we are not prepared at present, much as we value the opinions of Sir Knight Junes, to accept his view of this matter. His report is a capital one.

The dues of the Grand Body were raised to seventy-five cents per annum per member, by unanimous vote.

An appropriation was made for the expenses incurred by the delegation to the Grand Encampment of the United States at New Orleans. The Grand Commander declined to accept the tender, saying—

"That to meet with the kindness and attention he did on his trip, and during his stay in New Orleans, was more than a recompense, and under no circumstances would he accept it."

He was frequently interrupted by applause during his description of the kindly treatment shown our Michigan Sir Knights during the long to be remembered trip to New Orleans.

Prior to the assembly of the Grand Conclave a large number of the Knights met at Grand Rapids, and thence escorted the Grand Commander and other Grand Officers to Kalamazoo, the place of holding the Grand Conclave. They took a special train of palace cars and traveled from 11 A. M. until 1 P. M., when they were escorted to their quarters in Kalamazoo by the Templars whom they found awaiting their arrival. This affair is styled the "bright event of the Grand Conclave" by the Grand Recorder.

S. S. Mathews, Pontiac, Grand Commander; William P. Junes, Grand Rapids (re-elected) Grand Recorder, and (re-appointed) Chairman Correspondence Committee.

MISSISSIPPI.

Fifteenth Annual Conclave at Vicksburg, April 20th, 1875; P. M. Savery, Grand Commander; twelve out of fourteen Commanderies represented; session, three days.

An afternoon excursion on the steamer Natchez made a part of the service of the Knights on the first day of the session. A Grand Chapter of Sorrow of the Order of the Eastern Star, whatever that means, was held on the night of July 9th, when a Commandery, in full dress, costume, acted as escort to that Grand Body, while marching from the *Masonic Hall* to church and returning therefrom.

Should Templars do escort duty on such occasions? Grand Commander Savery reports this incident as a thing of course, and evidently enjoys the reminiscence. We shall next hear of Templars escorting the Grangers, Temperance and Benevolent Societies and sewing circles. We don't object to Templars escorting ladies, but it is hardly in accordance with our ideas of propriety that Commanderies should turn out for any such purpose; however, our Mississippi friends undoubtedly had a very good time and the Grand Commander overruns with gushing compliment:

Immediately following the close of the Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star, Attala Chapter, No. 16, of that Order was opened under the supervision of Grand Matron Annie T. Clark, acting Worthy Matron of said Chapter. The Sir Knights of Kosciusko Commandery were then paraded in the Grand Chapter Hall—whereupon the Grand Matron, in the name and behalf of Attala Chapter, presented to Sir Knight A. H. Barkley, Grand Master of Masons of Mississippi, an elegant copy of the Holy Scriptures with instructions to present the same to Kosciusko Commandery. By request I had the honor to receive the beautiful and appropriate gift from the illustrious brother and Sir Knight, and to deliver the same into the possession of the Sir Knights, for whom it was designed. Then followed a Knightly banquet enlivened by the fair, graceful and accomplished ladies of Kosciusko, and other portions of Mississippi, who, mingling with the Sir Knights around the festal board, made the hours seemingly pass like

moments, and the recollections thereof like unto an angel-dream of Paradise, I suggest to the different Commanderies of Mississippi that frequent invitations of ladies to your banquets will amply repay. *Try it!*

It will be remembered that this was immediately after the closing of a Grand Chapter of *Sorrow*.

Horatio.—Indeed, my Lord, it followed hard upon.

Hamlet. * * * The funeral bak'd meats

Did coldly furnish forth the marriage tables.

The Grand Commander says :

In relation to Camp contemplated to be held at Biloxi during the summer of 1874, I received no notice, official or otherwise, of the time said Encampment was to take place, and, therefore, did not notify the several Commanderies of this State. I am informed by V. E. Sir Knight G. W. Cox, D. G. C., who attended the Camp, that the Sir Knights of Mississippi were few in number, yet our Fraters of Alabama and Louisiana were present in considerable force, and that all things passed off as happily and merrily as could be desired.

We believe due notice was sent to Grand Commander Savery in ample time and regret that he did not receive it. We were all much disappointed that we did not have a large delegation of Mississippi Knights with us in our Camp on the occasion referred to, although Sir Knight Cox was a host in himself. The Grand Commander reports :

Sir Knight Cox, D. G. C., Commanding 1st Division, organized a Camp at Columbus, Miss., in the month of October, 1874, which, though very thinly attended, was productive of good results.

Of the reception of the Templars at New Orleans, when the Grand Encampment assembled here, he says :

With courteous greetings and princely hospitality, the Templars of Louisiana received and entertained the Grand Encampment and thousands of visiting Fraters, representing every part and section of the United States; and all was done—nothing left undone—to prove to their distinguished visitors that Southern hospitality, while it may be equalled, it cannot be surpassed. Nor was the cordial greeting and heartfelt welcome confined to the Templar Order and Masonic fraternity alone. No! All the citizens of New Orleans—old and young, male and female, rich and poor—*every one* seemed to look, act, and speak, welcome Knights Templar! Some Masonic periodicals, in giving a description of the festivities of the occasion referred to, have stated in substance that our magnificent reception and entertainment was but an outward show—that there was no heart in the welcome. I differ very materially with those who entertain that opinion. I have studied the actions of men to little purpose if such was the case. *Actions* speak louder than words, and yet, in this instance, *words* most expressive and sentiments most commendable saluted us wherever we went.

An invitation to dine with the Fireman's Association was accepted by the Grand Commandery, as also was an invitation to attend a full dress entertainment given by Magnolia Commandery.

The Jurisprudence Committee submitted the following report, but the Grand Commandery saw fit to disapprove it :

In reference to Kosciusko Commandery acting as escort to the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, and the reception of said Commandery by the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, they submit the following resolution, and ask the adoption of the same :

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Grand Commandery that no Subordinate Commandery should parade as escort to the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, or other Orders not Masonic.

We think the Committee clearly right in the matter.

We find the following in the newly adopted by-laws of the Grand Commandery :

ARTICLE XVIII.

If any member shall be in arrears for dues for twelve months, he shall be notified of that fact by the Recorder, and if they remain unpaid until he owes two years dues, he shall forfeit his membership, and only be reinstated by paying up all arrearages. But the Commandery can excuse the payment of dues under peculiar circumstances.

And in the Rules and Edicts :

SEC. 18. * * * * A non-affiliated Knight is not entitled to Knightly burial."

The report on Correspondence is presented by Sir E. George De Lap. It is a good report, but very brief. Louisiana receives no notice.

G. W. Cox, Columbus, Grand Commander ; J. L. Power, Jackson (re-elected), Grand Recorder ; A. M. Savery, ———, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

MISSOURI.

Fifteenth Annual Conclave at St. Louis, October 5th, 1875 ; Samuel A. Guilbert, Grand Commander ; twenty-two out of twenty-nine Commanderies represented ; session, one day.

The Grand Commander states that on the organization of the first Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery, three chartered Commanderies with a membership of 185, were represented in the Grand Body. He says :

We are now assembled in our Fifteenth Annual Conclave with twenty-three Commanderies represented, and bearing upon our rolls the names of over a thousand good and true Knights.

[N. B.—The Grand Secretary says there are twenty-two, and the Committee on Credentials reported twenty-one.]

Four dispensations for new Commanderies had been issued during the year. The Grand Commander reports :

My information from every part of the State indicates that Templar Masonry is steadily gaining ground. The "hard times" have prevented as rapid an increase as we would otherwise have enjoyed, but the Order is, notwithstanding, increasing in numbers, in zeal and in all good works. There are no conflicts of jurisdiction, no ungenerous rivalries, but everywhere a courteous emulation as to who shall bear the cross and display the banners of Christian Knighthood.

We offer our sincere congratulations.

By an amendment to a by-law adopted in 1874, it was provided that members in arrears for two years, were to be declared by the Grand Commander

to be dropped from the roll. The Grand Commander suggests that there is no way provided, by which he is to know who is thus in arrears, and that the duty of declaring delinquents dropped from the roll should be imposed upon the Eminent Commander, who has the information within reach.

The Grand Commander wants the braid taken off the caps in his jurisdiction, he says :

It gives an air of tinsel and shows more becoming to a circus than to a Christian Order.

The following is good :

A practice prevails in some Commanderies of opening and closing "short"—that is, omitting part or all of the proper ceremonies. No officer is thus vested with the high power of setting aside our ceremonies. It is a careless, indolent habit, which, if permitted in opening and closing, will extend into other work, and all familiarity with our beautiful Ritual, or love for it, will be lost. Let us resist the beginning of evil.

He does not believe in conferring the Orders on Sunday, not that there is anything in our ceremonies that may not properly be said or done on the Lord's Day, but because the world does not know this. He thinks "We owe a decent respect to the opinions of the Christian world, and should not heedlessly violate its sense of propriety or duty."

Our Missouri fraters appear to have been in the habit of keeping late hours. The Grand Commander says :

"From 7 to 11 o'clock gives ample time to do all the work that ought to be done in one night, but cock-crow often finds us in our asylums. A man's own home is his best asylum after 11 o'clock at night, and our law ought to absolutely prohibit all work in our Commanderies after that hour."

Those whom we leave at home undoubtedly would approve these views, but there are cases of necessity sometimes, when such a law would prove an unwise hindrance. The Grand Commander recommends (in accordance with Grand Commander Tufts, 1872, and Grand Commander Root, 1873), the establishment of Ascension Day as a Templar holiday. The proposition seems an excellent one. It is warranted by our profession and our Ritual.

He found it impossible to attend the Triennial at New Orleans and gives due praise to his proxy Past Grand Commander Tufts. Of the Assembly, he remarks -

The Assembly of Knights Templar at New Orleans on this occasion was one of the most illustrious recorded in the history of Templar Masonry, and their reception and entertainment were marked by that lavish hospitality for which the Southern people are so justly renowned. To the Grand Lodge and Grand Commandery of Louisiana, and to the Commanderies of New Orleans, much praise is due for the completeness of their arrangements and their generous and untiring attention to their guests. Verily, in the eloquent language of M. E. Grand Master Hopkins, in his reply to the welcoming address, it was "not the first time that the banners of the Cross had waved over a Crescent City, but never before was the surrender made with such eagerness and grace; never before were the invading hosts so gladly and so kindly welcomed; never before did they find under the ensign of Mahomet such noble Knights of the true faith, bearing the indelible sign of Brotherhood in their hearts and manifesting it in all their acts."

The meeting of the Grand Encampment in New Orleans at that time was fortunate for the State of Louisiana and her chief city. The State was torn by feuds and passions that seemed irreconcilable and unappeasable, and in the midst of the strife the Crescent City, whose name is so imperishably linked to our national history, was falling into decay. Her streets were marked by bloody conflicts, but had forgotten the sounds of commerce. Her wharves were silent, and the heads of a hasty and passionate, but brave and generous Christian people were bowed under a fearful weight of "injustice, falsehood and oppression." At this crisis thousands of intelligent and influential men, bound to those suffering people by mystic ties and solemn vows, strong as death itself, assembled in their city and enjoyed their hospitality, and as they dispersed homeward they carried with them the conviction, which they were not slow to express, that a people who had thus welcomed them to their homes and hearts, their temples and altars, thus thrown open to them their palaces and their gardens, rivaling the gardens of Gul in their beauty and bloom, deserved a better fate.

The passions and resentments of our Southern brethren were also modified and allayed by an interchange of views with "men and brethren" from other parts of our common country. Thus a healthier public sentiment was created, and in a few months afterwards that distracted State enjoyed a repose that had not been her lot for years before. I am persuaded that the visit of the Knight Templars to New Orleans in December contributed in no small degree to this happy result.

Thus shall Peace, with healing on her wings, ever fold her white pinions under our banners, and the cross of our Immanuel be a sign unto the nations!

Of the contest for the prize offered by the Jockey Club, he says :

One of the most pleasing episodes attendant upon the Triennial Conclave was the contest for a prize consisting of an elegant service of silver plate, offered by the Jockey Club of Louisiana to the best drilled and best appearing Commandery. After an exciting contest the prize was awarded to St. Louis Commandery No. 1, whose membership, superb equipment and excellent drill, attracted universal attention. And it is no more than just to say in this connection, that our own Ascalon, twenty-three years younger than its fortunate rival in that contest, under the lead of its able and soldierly commander, R. E. Sir Aglar, shed lustre and renown upon our State by the completeness of its equipment, the gallant bearing of its Knights, the excellence of its drill, and the precision and brilliancy of its manoeuvres; and her still younger sister, St. Aldermar covered herself with glory. These Commanderies are an honor to the State and to our noble Order everywhere.

The following report of the Committee on Grievance is of interest :

Your Committee on Grievance respectfully beg leave to report that there has been presented to them the facts and papers in the matter of the alleged irregularities in Tancred Commandery, No. 25, and herewith submit a brief statement of the same, with their recommendation appended :

It was represented to the R. E. Grand Commander that the Eminent Commander of Tancred Commandery having left the State, the Generalissimo succeeded to the command; that said Generalissimo was then, and had been at the time of his election, suspended from his Lodge in Pennsylvania for non-payment of dues; that during such suspension he procured a Dimit from his then Commandery and became a member of Tancred Commandery; that, therefore, the work done by him as Acting Eminent Commander was, and is, null and void, and relief was sought from the Grand Commandery in the premises.

But, it appearing to the satisfaction of your Committee that suspension from his Lodge in Pennsylvania was not known to the said Generalissimo and Acting Eminent Commander, and that it was also unknown to the

Commandery from which he obtained his Dimit, and that he had reason to believe he was in good standing when he presented his Dimit and assumed the office of Generalissimo in Tancred Commandery; and further, that, on discovering that he had been suspended, he immediately took order for the payment of his dues, and was accordingly reinstated in his Lodge, thereby reinstating him throughout. Your Committee are of the opinion that Sir A. T. Bissell, Generalissimo and Acting Eminent Commander of Tancred Commandery, No. 25, acted in perfect good faith in the premises; that his acts as such Acting Eminent Commander were, and are, in full force, and that he is lawfully a member of, and commanding officer of, said Commandery.

And your Committee recommend that the R. E. Grand Commandery affirm this opinion and dismiss the subject matter hereof from further consideration.

The Committee on Grand Commander's Address reported in favor of discarding the silver, gilt or braid bands on fatigue caps, and trust that the regulations of the Grand Encampment in this respect will be enforced. The committee also recommended that the suggestion of the Grand Commander in regard to Ascension Day be approved; that Ascension Day be hereafter recognized as a holiday and publicly observed by Subordinate Commanderies. The report of the Committee was adopted.

The following was adopted on the recommendation of the Jurisprudence Committee:

All dues shall be paid annually, either in advance or at the close of each fiscal year, and any member who is in arrears for two years shall be declared by the Eminent Commander, to be dropped from the roll; *provided* always, that, upon his making satisfactory excuse, he may be restored by a majority vote of the Commandery.

The correspondence report of Sir Knight Gouley is up to his mark, and that is very high.

Under the head of Alabama, we find the following very sensible observations:

From close observation, we have come to the conclusion that no new Commandery should ever be allowed to start with less than two large Chapters to draw from, and not until the members agree to promptly uniform themselves. The fees for the orders should never be *less* than fifty dollars, and the annual dues sufficient to pay the Grand Chapter dues, rent and all current expenses for the year, without being dependent on a single candidate. To do this, a Commandery of fifty members should be charged about five dollars each, which would *net* about four dollars each, or \$200; and how any live Commandery can get along with less than that, even in the country, we cannot imagine.

Under Connecticut we find this:

The following was adopted:

That the suspension or expulsion of a Sir Knight from his Lodge or Chapter, does not in itself suspend or expel him from his Commandery, but it deprives him of all rights, benefits and privileges therein, and all intercourse with the Order while under such disability; that striking a Sir Knight from the roll of his Lodge or Chapter for non-payment of dues, or from any other cause, is not equivalent to such suspension or expulsion, and does not affect his standing in the Commandery; and it is only when a striking from the roll follows a previous suspension or expulsion for some Masonic offense, that it entails any disability upon a Sir Knight.

What "dropping from the roll" means in Connecticut, we do not know, but in most jurisdictions it means that the party is deprived of all the rights of membership in his Lodge, even holding "Masonic communication" with it, for if it does not amount to at least that, it does not amount to a row of pins. If it means merely that the party is a non-affiliate in good standing, then such penalty is nothing less than a premium offered to delinquency. Any mean and poor devil who won't pay his dues (for certainly one who *cannot* pay, is not dropped) can walk in a Templar procession with as long a feather as anybody to the insult of his more honest brother Master Masons standing upon the sidewalk.

If Connecticut wants such sort of "Christian warriors" as those in and out of its Asylums, she is welcome to them, but we here tell her, that under *our* law they must prove that they are in good standing in their Lodge, or have an honorable dismissal, before they can visit in Missouri. Thank God we are not so hard run in this jurisdiction for a Commandery quorum or a parade, as to hold Knightly fellowship with a Master Mason who won't pay his honest Lodge debts, and we are ashamed for the Order that it is tolerated *anywhere*.

We find the following under Iowa. It is of interest in this jurisdiction :

Under the head of "Louisiana," he [Sir Knight Guilbert] quotes as follows, from decisions of Grand Commander De Grauge :

That the mere striking of the name of a Sir Knight from the roll of his Lodge or Chapter is not equivalent to suspension or expulsion ; and that unless his name shall be so stricken from the roll *because* of suspension or expulsion, his standing in his Commandery and the Order is in *no wise* affected.

And says : "This is an eminently just ruling."

Where the justice comes in, we do not exactly see, unless he intends to make a new dictionary with entirely different definitions from those now in use.

Just exactly what is the absolute meaning of "striking from the roll" ' i "one of those things no feller can find out," for each State has one of its own, and in fact each new presiding officer of the same State, also, has one. It is a misnomer in Masonry, and was borrowed from the Odd Fellows or some other modern society. It has no permanent status in Masonic jurisprudence, and its introduction is only a recourse to Masonic assassination. By striking a member's name from the roll, accomplishes indirectly, by cowardice, what the body had not the courage to do by a manly and open trial, through charges and specifications. He is no longer a member, he cannot vote, and, to be consistent, he cannot visit, nor can Masonic communication be held with him. If he can visit ; can be assisted ; can be buried ; can, in short, do everything but vote, then the penalty is a disgrace to the institution, for it is then nothing less than a premium to Masonic vagabondizing. If striking from the roll is no penalty beyond not voting, and yet allows the party to travel over the world as a non-affiliate in good standing and exempt from one cent dues as long as he lives, then the decision is *just*, but it is a long ways from being "Knightly." If any Commandery, or Grand Commandery, will hold Knightly membership with a mean vagabond of a Mason, decided unworthy of membership in any Lodge, then we have a different opinion from them. We cannot think over this humiliation of our beloved Order, with its glorious legends and its present assumptions of *honor, virtue and Christian Knighthood*, without making us ashamed, and we must ask Connecticut and Iowa their pardon for saying what we have. We cannot believe that they and Louisiana have done this thing *wilfully or knowingly*, and we can only say, "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." If we were but a Master Mason, and should witness a Knight Templar parade going by with its

ranks full of late Lodge members who had been kicked out for non-payment of dues, we should never apply for the Orders, nor would any other man who had the slightest respect for the honor and dignity of Ancient Craft Masonry.

Under Louisiana, Sir Knight Gouley publishes the correspondence between Grand Commander Hornor and Grand Commander Isaacs, of Virginia, with reference to the visit of Virginia Knights to New Orleans at the late session of the Grand Encampment. He says, as the other side of the question has been published, it is but justice to Sir Knight Hornor, "than whom a more courteous gentleman does not live," that his version of the affair should be published also. He concludes his quotation on this subject with the following remarks :

We regret very much that the Grand Commander of Virginia did not know the Grand Commander of Louisiana personally as well as we do, as there would then have been no misunderstanding, and knowing *both* so well as we do, is why we are satisfied that neither knew each other well, and therefore, as the sincere friend of both—both of whom the world recognize as gentlemen and true Knights—we ask them to "forget and forgive."

Of our Grand Commander's orders with reference to the Triennial, he says :

They will be preserved as models of the character and purpose of the occasion which gave them birth ; an occasion never to be forgotten by any who participated in it.

Of the scenes here during the Triennial, he remarks :

Words fail to describe the glorious beauty and magnificence of the entertainment accompanied at every step, in every place, and during every hour of the happy week. The grand old city covered herself with imperishable honors, and sent each visitor home with a heart full of prayers for her peace, happiness and prosperity. The impress made upon every stranger must have had its influence in the public echo of the North, which so soon after wafted to the Gulf a more benign course of public administration.

The general influences of that Triennial Conclave will have permeated results yet unborn, and a new generation of Knights (now but boys) will be taught to respect and bless the name and hospitality of the Masons and citizens of the Crescent City.

As for giving even a synopsis of the individual character of the occasion, it is simply impossible. As Sir Knight Corson, of New Jersey, said in his report, after the Conclave held in St. Louis, in 1868, that (we) "he was a steam engine in breeches," what shall we say of Grand Commander Hornor ? He was a Vesuvius in action, and every spark was light and life to the host of noble aids who dispensed comforts on every side. * * * * The magnificent pitchers and salver have been properly inscribed and put in a glass case, to be handed down to generations to come, as an heirloom, and a testimonial of the Jockey Club, and of the happy occasion of their presentation, in which every Missouri Knight feels an honest pride. If we knew where to begin or stop in the list of courteous Knights on the staff of the Grand Commander, as well as of the New Orleans Knights generally, without making invidious distinctions, or forgetting the names of some, we should gladly do so, but it is impossible, for all did the most that was possible, and for which all our members will ever be grateful."

He compliments our report of last year. In that report we remarked, under the head of Indiana, that we failed to see the incompatibility of the

same person holding the offices of Grand Commander and Eminent Commander at the same time, and said :

No disobedience of orders would be likely to result from the fact that one Knight held the two positions ; and instances might occur where the well-being of the subordinate body would be seriously interfered with by carrying out the decision.

Sir Knight Gouley queries : " How could an appeal be taken from the decision of the E. C., to that of the G. C. ? "

That G. C.'s decision would undoubtedly be binding for the time being in any Commandery, and the advantage of his holding the position of E. Commander would be great to his Commandery. There would be no clashing of authority. If qualified to act as Grand Master, he would make no mistakes in his rulings in the subordinate body. Referring to us further, he remarks :

He says he did not see where the " mutuals " had their good time ; that all of those he came across looked demure and melancholy, except his " amiable young friend, Sir Knight Parvin." The reason was palpable. It was Simons' fault, as the organization was left to him to complete, and he was entrusted with all the plenipotentiary powers necessary as to the room and gas (especially the gas) ; and because Corson, the General Grand Secretary, had not arrived with the sacred rolls, records and great seal ; and as Drummond, the Pontifex Maximus, was buried in the black costume almost to suffocation ; and finally, as Hornor, the elected recipient of the golden bellows (to qualify him as Grand Orator to sit by the Poet Laureate), was so absorbed in seeing that all his visitors got " the same " when invited, the convention was postponed till a more convenient night ; and as each member staid up every night to keep watch and ward, to see which side of the city the sun rose on, it is no wonder they presented a quiet and melancholy mien, not very characteristic of a " Reporters Syndicate." Next time the then resident Grand Commander won't be elected to the honors ; and, by the way, it struck us that Hornor " sort of smelt the battle afar off," for he was always all-fired busy when any certain friends wanted to " see " him in a room — " just for a minute." Well, never mind ; he is, *ex officio*, our Grand Orator, made so by nature and the unanimous suffrages of the Corps, and will be ready with his remarks at the Cleveland Convention in 1877.

Our Missouri Frater says that " if non-payment of dues is worthy of a penalty, it is worthy of a trial and an assessment of the verdict by the members. "

We never have proposed to punish without previous and sufficient investigation. In the case of non-payment of dues but little evidence is necessary beyond what appears in the records of the Body. We say,—give the member fair notice, and if he remains delinquent, punish him, if sufficient proof is produced of delinquency, in all cases where he does not present ample excuse. In such cases, formal charges are a nuisance. Fair notification should be insisted on. The member is then put on his defense. He knows the law. He is informed of it by his notice, and he knows the consequence of his further violation, and he knows too, that if he comes forward with a reasonable excuse, such as inability from any cause, justice will be done him. He has every opportunity to secure fair and courteous dealing, and to establish any defense that he may have.

Sir Knight Gouley thinks the law of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates adopted by the Grand Encampment, is one that cannot be too soon repealed. The report sparkles with wit and is full of sound argument and pregnant suggestions.

John C. Bloomfield, St. Louis, Grand Commander ; George Frank Gouley, St. Louis (re-elected), Grand Recorder, and (re-appointed) Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

NEBRASKA.

Third Annual Conclave at Lincoln, January 6th, 1875; Orasmus Hylas Irish. Grand Commander; six Commanderies (all) represented; session, two days. The Nebraska proceedings bear the palm for elegance. The volume is well bound, beautifully printed on fine paper and illustrated by an illuminated title page and a fine portrait of Grand Commander Irish. It is a model worthy of imitation everywhere, and reflects great credit upon Sir Knight Bowen, the Grand Recorder.

The report itself is very well prepared. A military style is adopted throughout. For instance, we learn that certain Knights were "detailed to ascertain who were present;" that "the detail on credentials desire to report, &c.;" and in stating the fact of the installation of the new officers of the Grand Commandery, the Recorder says: "The officers elected and detailed for duty for the incoming year were now mustered by V. E. Sir George W. Lininger, &c., &c." We see no objection to this very formal mode.

The Grand Commander reports that the spirit of harmony and zeal for the welfare of the order continues unabated in his command. His official acts, he says, had been few, and his address occupies but two pages. He had issued one dispensation for the formation of a new Commandery. The following deserves more than a passing notice:

"Ours is a masonic institution—partakes of her spirit and is, throughout, pervaded by her policy. Masonry is ancient and universal, co-extensive with time, and what is done by her sanction should not be measured or influenced by the transactions of other Orders, which are modern and local, and seek to imitate her titles, ceremonies, clothing, and insignia, and to parade them before the eye of the world in pompous processions and gay assemblies. There is a disposition strongly to be reprobated to make Masonry and its appendant orders too familiar to the profane, forgetting that our masonic work and labor should be in secret, for the eye of Him only who seeth in secret and who may reward us openly in his own good time, by allowing our eyes to behold the king in his glory when his temple shall be fully restored. We ought not to allow our ceremonies to be paraded before the world except on the grandest occasions. They should be confined to the duly tiled and guarded lodge, chapter, and asylum. The fame of the Knights Templar should spread both far and wide for acts of charity and pure beneficence—not for imposing parades, shows and gaily dressed assemblies, to attract the gaze of those who have no part or lot in the great work we have vowed to do. Like the olden Knights, our efforts are to be put forth 'for the defense of the Christian religion, destitute widows and helpless orphans.' The warfare upon which we have entered is not for a holiday; it is a hand-to-hand and heart-to-heart struggle with

the powers of evil—a toilsome march upon the enemy, against the realms of darkness in this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

The Grand Commander decided that the Grand Officer, who was also a representative of a Subordinate Commandery, could not give his proxy for either position. We have seen it done in Louisiana, but the Grand Encampment has settled the law against the practice.

No report on correspondence.

Rolland H. Oakley, Lincoln, Grand Commander; William R. Bowen, Omaha, (re-elected) Grand Recorder, and (re-appointed) chairman correspondence committee.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Annual Conclave at Concord, September 29th, 1874; Joseph W. Fellows, Grand Commander; nine Commanderies (all) represented; Session, two days.

The Grand Commander says that “obedience to the laws and rules of the Order has been the aim and the pride of the Templars in our beloved State,” and that his duties have been little more than nominal in consequence. He reports a visit to DeWitt Clinton Commandery where he witnessed a public installation very beautifully and impressively performed by the retiring E. Commander, Sir Albert R. Hatch, who had been at the head of that gallant old Commandery for a quarter of a century, the longest term of service by an Eminent Commander, I believe, to be found in the history of the Order in America.

Many will agree with Grand Commander Fellows as to the following :

The tendency is in the direction of public displays, and to engage in festivities and ceremonies very far from masonic or knightly. It is one of the dangers of the times, and must be met by rigid rules strictly enforced.

A Commandery receiving and entertaining a visiting Commandery from another jurisdiction, assessed all its members to defray the expense. The legality of the assessment was questioned. The Grand Commander found much conflict of opinion and authority upon the subject, but decided :

“That in the case made, the assessment was legally laid, and its collection should be enforced.”

It is pleasant to note that the finances of the Grand Commandery are in an excellent condition. Although the uniform question has been in a manner settled, the following remarks of our R. E. Frater are dictated in such courteous spirit that we cannot avoid their quotation. We wish that a similar spirit had been universal throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment :

While the M. E. Grand Master has, in the discharge of his official duty, indicated clearly his opinion upon the law and its application to us, he has realized our embarrassment and tempered his action in the premises, with high regard for the interests of Templarism, and delicate consideration of

the unfortunate variance between his view and that which has been entertained heretofore in this jurisdiction.

The Correspondence Committee under the head of Connecticut do not concur with Grand Commander Calkins, on the effect of expulsion or suspension in the Lodge upon membership in the Commandery. Sir Knight Calkins, held in 1874, that a Lodge expulsion, would have no effect in the Commandery until action should be taken by the latter body. The Committee say they had supposed the weight of authority, and the better reason, to be, that in such cases, the Sir Knight necessarily loses his status as a Knight Templar.

The Committee characterize the report of Sir Knight Hornor for 1873, as "able and courteous." We find the following in this review from the proceedings of Minnesota for 1874 (which have not reached us) :

"WHEREAS, We deem it inconsistent with the general principles of masonry, that a member of the Order should hold Knightly honors without being in good and regular standing as a Master and Royal Arch Mason : and

WHEREAS, We recognize the fact that the branch of a tree cannot have a healthy growth without the root receiving sufficient nourishment to support the branch and its accessories ; and recognizing the fact that the Lodge and R. A. Chapter are the *root* and *trunk* of the symbolic Masonic tree from which the Commandery branch receives its support ; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense and unequivocal opinion of this Grand Commandery that Masonry regards no members as a 'dress parade class,' but that all should be active, zealous working and contributing Brethren, Companions and Sir Knights, who are members under our jurisdiction ; and

WHEREAS, We positively require that all our candidates for the Knightly honors shall show a record, at the time of petitioning, of being members in good standing of some regular Lodge and Chapter ; therefore

Resolved, That all members of Commanderies in the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, shall hold regular and good membership standing in some legal Lodge and Chapter, to be recognized as Sir Knights in regular standing of our Subordinate Commanderies.

Resolved, That any Sir Knight who shall become non-affiliated from a Lodge or Chapter by reason of holding a dimit, being stricken from the roll, or suspended from either of the above organizations, he shall be granted six months time in which to restore his membership. If he fails from any cause to reinstate himself into good standing, his name shall be stricken from the Commandery roll upon the order of the Eminent Commander, and a proper notation made upon the Commandery register and returns to this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That a certificate from a Lodge or Chapter Secretary, or personal knowledge of an Eminent Commander, shall be sufficient evidence for the consideration of a Commandery as to the Lodge or Chapter membership of a Sir Knight.

Resolved, That all Sir Knight members within this jurisdiction who are now non-affiliated, shall, within six months from the adoption of this regulation, take steps to comply with the foregoing rule. If unable through unworthiness or otherwise to become affiliated, they shall be stricken from the roll of their Commandery until restored to Lodge and Chapter membership.

Whereupon the New Hampshire Committee observe :

These resolutions take hold of a subject which is likely to prove very important. They take advanced ground, and are perhaps more likely to prevail in the West than in the East.

The tendency of modern times is decidedly towards a result which will make the requirements of these resolutions a necessity to the healthy existence of the Order of the Temple. "Non-affiliates" are rapidly increasing and as rapidly getting into "disfavor."

We should hardly feel like enforcing the rule in New Hampshire, at once, but we are satisfied that in the end it will and ought to prevail.

We heartily agree with the concluding words of the comments of our Fraters of New Hampshire, and with the tenor of the resolutions of the Minnesota Grand Commandery, but we do not think six months time should be granted to a Mason suspended from a Lodge or Chapter, within which to restore his membership in such body, before taking his name from the Commandery roll. He should be dropped incontinently, as soon as definite information is obtained of the fact of suspension.

The Grand Secretaries of our Grand Lodge and Chapter communicate such tidings to our Grand Recorder.

Under Ohio, 1874, the committee expressed their approval of the views of Grand Commander Carson that physical blemishes do not necessarily disqualify one from being created a Knight Templar. The committee think that this doctrine is fast becoming favored. It will probably be a long time before that kind of progress will be sanctioned in this country. Tradition, precedent and the Masonic rituals are opposed to it. It is a decided innovation, and we know of no argument to support it, that might not be used in the Blue Lodge.

Under Pennsylvania, 1873, the New Hampshire report criticises Sir Knight Hopkin's review on Correspondence. They give our present Grand Master just what he deserves :

It shows industry and perseverance beyond measure. Indeed, if Sir Hopkins cannot work faster than most men he must have little else to do but prepare his reviews.

His literary taste is exquisite and his judgment good. The only time he "weakens" is when he gets to discussing family affairs, and repeating nursery tales with Corson. There is no objection to such talk, but it should be confined to their respective nurseries.

We regret that he has no opportunity to respond.

This review is a fine one. More than one hundred pages are filled with selections made with discrimination, and comments which do credit to the Masonic knowledge of its writer, and to his courtesy on the field of controversy.

Joseph W. Fellows, Manchester (re-elected), Grand Commander ; John A. Harris, Concord (re-elected), Grand Recorder ; Nathan P. Hunt, Trinity, (re-appointed), Chairman Correspondence Committee.

NEW JERSEY.

Seventeenth Annual Conclave at New Brunswick, September 7th, 1875; Wm. L. Newell, Deputy Grand Commander; 11, out of 12 Commanderies represented; session, one day.

Nine Commanderies escorted the officers of the Grand Commandery to the Masonic Temple, where a banquet was participated in before commencing upon more serious duty.

The Grand Commander found it impossible to attend the Conclave in person, and his address was read by Past Grand Commander Sir Wm. H. McIlhaney. Peace and prosperity attended the labors of the Knights of the jurisdiction of New Jersey during the year, and the Grand Commander says "that no unpleasant circumstance occurred to mar or disturb the Knightly courtesy which exists throughout the jurisdiction." The Templars of New Jersey, it appears from this address, had their full share of public display, with the permission of Grand Commander Batley.

He decided that an elective Grand Officer, while holding his office, could be tried upon charges preferred in his Commandery for immoral or un-knightly conduct, and that it is not necessary in such case that he should waive his rights as a Grand Officer. Suppose such elective officer happened to be a Grand Commander? The Jurisprudence Committee reported adversely to this decision, and the Grand Commandery sustained the Committee. The following decisions are of interest:

Question 2d. A Sir Knight having been expelled from the Chapter of which he was a member, does he continue in regular standing in his Commandery, or is his status that of an expelled Sir Knight?

3d. A Sir Knight having been expelled from his Chapter, and consequently expelled from his Commandery, does restoration in the Chapter restore him to his former standing in his Commandery?

4th. Can an Eminent Commander order a dimit granted to a member of his Commandery without referring the application to the Commandery for its action, provided the applicant is clear of the books and in good standing?

5th. Charges having been preferred against an Eminent Commander, and duly presented to the Grand Commander, and the Grand Commander having appointed a Commission to try the said Eminent Commander, and the Grand Commander having tabled or laid aside the charges and dissolved the appointed Commission before it had taken action, because said Eminent Commander had been expelled from his Chapter, what action can the Commandery (of which he is now, by restoration, a private member), take at this time in reference to the charges previously presented to the Grand Commander, and by him laid aside?

6th. Charges having been preferred against an Eminent Commander, and not having been acted upon by the Commission appointed for that purpose, because said Eminent Commander had been expelled from his Chapter; he having now been restored in the Chapter after his term of office as Eminent Commander had expired, is it now necessary, if it is the desire to have him tried, to prefer new charges against him and try him in the Commandery of which he is now a subordinate member?

7th. Should a dimit be granted to an applicant who is in good standing and clear of the books, by order of the Eminent Commander, if the Commandery refuses to grant it by vote, and also refuses to prefer charges?

Some of these questions are capable of sub-division, and would seem, under the circumstances, to require separate answers or decisions. But my replies were given in the order in which the questions were propounded.

Answer to Question 2d.—A Sir Knight, having been expelled in his Chapter, does not continue in regular standing in his Commandery, and must be regarded as an expelled Sir Knight.

3d. A Sir Knight, having been expelled in his Chapter and subsequently restored, he is by such action restored to membership in his Commandery.

4th. A Sir Knight applying for a dimit in open Commandery, is entitled to it if he is clear of the books and no charges are pending against him; and the Eminent Commander can order a dimit granted without a vote of the Commandery.

5th. The election of the Grand Commander was nullified or made void by the action of the Chapter, and the Sir Knight having been subsequently restored in his Chapter, he was by such action restored to membership in his Commandery, and having applied for a dimit was entitled to it, and consequently the Commandery can not prefer charges subsequent to the application for a dimit.

6th. An Eminent Commander having been expelled in his Chapter, and subsequently restored after his term of office as Commander had expired, charges can not be preferred against him after having applied for a dimit, and, as previously shown, he was in good standing when the dimit was applied for.

7th. A dimit should be granted to an applicant by order of the Eminent Commander, if he is clear of the books and no charges are pending against him, as there is no power vested in the the Commandery to refuse it by a vote.

On the recommendation of the Jurisprudence Committee, the Grand Commandery voted:

That decisions Nos. 5, 6 and 7 be altered to read, "A Sir Knight, having been tried and disciplined in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and subsequently restored, he is placed by restoration in good standing in his Commandery."

The Committee say:

A Sir Knight is entitled to a dimit upon application in open Commandery without a vote of the body, unless charges are preferred or notice given of intention to prefer charges at the next regular Conclave.

Of the reception of the Knights of the country, at the triennial in New Orleans, the Grand Commander says:

It is beyond my power to present to you anything approaching the gorgeous display, the unbounded hospitality, the Knightly courtesies, the warm and friendly welcome and the magnificent entertainments which greeted us on our arrival and during our stay in the Crescent City.

The evident desire on the part of all the citizens—high and low, rich and poor—seemed to be to vie with each other to do all in their power to make the visiting Sir Knights feel perfectly at home. And this feeling, or sentiment, was exhibited by the display of numerous banners, in all the principal streets of the city, with these words greeting us at almost every step: "*In Hoc Signo Vinces.*" "Welcome, welcome, Knights Templar." "Our Homes are Your Homes." "What is Ours is Yours." "Silver and gold have we none, but such as we have freely we give unto you."

Southern hospitality was fully demonstrated on this occasion, and the Fraters of the North will never forget the courtesy and kindness extended to us in the multitude of entertainments given for our pleasure by those noble hearted sons of Louisiana during our brief visit to their sunny, Southern homes.

Every jurisdiction was represented, and when the Grand Parade took place, on the fourth day, it was estimated that nearly three thousand Templars were in the line of march.

Of the Digest of Templar Law adopted by the Grand Encampment, he remarks:

There are many things contained in this Digest which will be looked upon unfavorably by a large number of Sir Knights who are conversant with Masonic law and Templar usages. But these edicts, whether right or wrong in principle or practice, are presented to us for our guidance in the future, and they *must be obeyed*.

Some of these edicts are of such a character as to entirely change our method of business in this jurisdiction.

Reports of their official labors were presented by the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General.

One hundred dollars was appropriated to the chairman of the Correspondence Committee.

The Report on Correspondence was published and distributed in advance of the Annual Conclave, in accordance with regulation. The salary of the Grand Recorder was fixed at \$300.

Sir Knight Thomas J. Corson, for the sixteenth time, comes before the Order of Templars with the report on correspondence. If there is any one man who enjoys "pitching into" another, it is the chivalrous medical man who presides over the New Jersey correspondence review. We doubt if his equal in this line exists. Another warlike M. D., he of Iowa, Knight Guilbert, may perhaps divide the honors, such as they are. When these two doughty champions of the quill and pill-box meet, the result is peculiar and decidedly interesting. Sedate Knighthood sits quietly by, and looks on with a sort of amazed, puzzled curiosity, almost ashamed to laugh and too much pleased to censure, like the pious invalid described by Charles Sprague:

He lets two dogs beneath his window fight,
And shuts his Bible to enjoy the sight.

Epithets rattle, retorts and repartees clash, wit blazes, dust is raised, fur flies, the sky is dark, Rome howls, and no one is ever hurt. These two Esculapians enjoy this gladiatorial, mental rough-and-tumble, each one safely ensconced in his own study, the one in New Jersey, on the sea-board, and the other beyond the Mississippi river in the far Northwest. They are incorrigible, irreclaimable, but—it is only their way. Sir Knight Guilbert's style of comment on Sir Knight Corson's opinions, and Sir Knight Corson's manner of putting forth his views of the ideas promulgated by Sir Knight Guilbert, remind us of an anecdote of Wall street. Once upon a time, when these two doctors were younger, Wall street was frequented by two elderly brokers, both good men, solid men, that is, their checks were good, and they had a due amount of avoirdupois about their respective persons. One was a deacon, the other, decidedly not so. The profane was very profane, and showed it, if not in his walk, cer-

tainly in his conversation. On one occasion he was reproved for the extreme intensity of his language by his pious brother financier, and responded: "Deacon, I swear a good deal, and I know you pray a good deal, but we don't either of us mean much by it!" But a treaty of peace has been declared between these warriors. Here, at least, is the protocol. Sir Knight Corson is referring to the correspondence report of Iowa.

Our Sir Knights must pardon us for quoting the following allusion to ourself. Call us vain, and we won't deny it; say we're silly, and we'll plead *non rull contendere*. But here it is:

"Handsomely plumed, alert, bright-eyed and long spurred, when he bounds into the reportorial cock-pit and flaps his strong wings, and utters his defiant 'cock-a-doodle do,' he attracts universal attention. Though he occasionally gets a fall, he is soon upon his feet again, and is 'game' to the last, in every contest. Badinage aside, Corson has a genius for this species of literature. He has made the reputation of this Grand Commandery, and is fortunate in having at his back a body of men who are not jealous of his standing and abilities, but rather cordially recognize them, and, therefore, keep him in the position which he adorns. Gloomy will be the day when, in obedience to the fiat which none may resist, he shall lay down his pen, and, with pale hands folded meekly over his pulseless heart, shall be carried tearfully to the 'last sad place appointed for all the living.'"

(SPECIAL NOTICE.—A liberal reward will be given to any one who will point out a single letter, word, syllable, phrase, paragraph, sentence, allusion, hint, insinuation, or anything of that sort, in any writing purporting to emanate from one Sir T. J. Corson, of New Jersey, which in the slightest degree censures, condemns, dissents from, disapproves of, or does not heartily accept, endorse and adopt everything that has been said, sung, spoken, written, promulgated, advocated or thought by Sir E. A. Guilbert, of Iowa. Apply at the office of the Grand Recorder of New Jersey.)

The following under Kentucky is not very bad. Referring to Sir Knight Woodruff's Correspondence Report, our New Jersey frater says:

He speaks of the Iowa luminary as the "pensive Parvin." When the bills for printing were presented at New Orleans, the Grand Encampment U. S. seemed to think that he was the X—pensive Parvin.

Under Louisiana, 1875, he says:

That distinguished Knight who has achieved an enviable reputation among Masonic writers and speakers, Sir Joseph P. Hornor, the Grand Commander, delivered an excellent address, which deals chiefly with local matters.

Referring to the reception of the Grand Encampment of the United States in New Orleans, in December last, he says:

"It is hardly proper for me to enter into particulars of the reception of its members by this Grand Commandery; but I may say that it seemed to give very general satisfaction to our visitors."

The sun is not compelled to advertise his brightness, nor is the moon required to proclaim her beauty; neither is it necessary for the Grand Commander of Louisiana to make any explanation of the manner in which the Sir Knights of that State received their visiting Fraters. This is a matter of fadeless record, writ in indelible characters upon the grateful hearts of those who were recipients of that warm-hearted hospitality, that unobtrusive yet unremitting kindness which was bestowed upon all by the noble Knights of Louisiana, and which render the memory of that brilliant occasion deathless. Those who were there say of Sir Hornor, that his "strength was as the strength of ten," and that his affable courtesy, his signal ability and fraternal manner won for him the hearts of all.

Sir Knight Corson notices our report of last year very pleasantly, and quotes a portion with approval. We make room for the following :

Sir Whitaker says of the Reporter's Syndicate, which was to have met at New Orleans, but which didn't :

"It didn't meet there; Sir Knight Corson didn't come to New Orleans, and at New Orleans the Syndicate generally failed to come to time, to the great regret of some of us youngsters who wanted an opportunity to get a look at the great lights of the Reportorial Fraternity."

The fact is that our Fraters of New Orleans so crowded the time with fetes, balls, reviews, parades, banquets, receptions, and such like inventions of the enemy, that such of the Reporters as were there were so overcome by the wiles of the he Delilahs of that gay city that they had no time or inclination for business. And then, *we* were not there to keep these impetuous youths in order.

In his notice of the proceedings of the last Conclave of the Grand Encampment, and referring to the disposition made of the uniform question, he sets a memorial page apart in his report surrounded by broad black lines, to the memory of the departed greatness of the Grand Encampment. The inscription upon the tablet is the text of the resolution permitting the wearing of the black uniform in certain cases.

With its witticisms, its *sense*, its judicious selections and happy statements of opinions on matters connected with Masonry and Templar Knighthood, the report is entertaining and very valuable. No one else writes such a report. No one else ever will, or can. His thunder is all harmless, his electric bolts are but heat lightning. We all know, and thoroughly appreciate the worth of his long service under our sacred banner.

After the Conclave was closed, a promenade concert was next in order.

William L. Newell, Millville, Grand Commander; Thomas J. Corson, Trenton (re-elected), Grand Recorder, and (re-appointed) Chairman Correspondence Committee.

OHIO.

Thirty-third Annual Conclave at Put-in-Bay, September 8th, 1875; Enoch T. Carson, Grand Commander; 27 Commanderies (all) represented; session, two days.

A Commandery of Knights Templar was opened in the inscrutable wisdom of our Ohio fraters, apparently to ascertain who were present. Satisfied on that head, the Grand Commandery was opened for business.

The Grand Commander had refused to permit a Commandery to participate with a lodge in a pic-nic excursion on St. John's Day, upon the invitation of the Lodge, because at the last previous meeting of the Grand Lodge, the following rule was adopted :

"It is *unmasonic* for any lodge of Masons to attend the funeral of a Brother where the same is not under control of and conducted by a Lodge of Master Masons." [See printed proceedings for 1874, p. 59.]

The Grand Commander says, in his letter refusing the request of the Commandery to participate in the excursion :

So long as the above offensive, unfraternal, discourteous and unmasonic rule remains unrepealed on the statute books of the G. Lodge of Ohio, I think it would be undignified in the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and she would be wanting in self-respect should she continue to recognize the Masonic courtesies and amenities which have heretofore existed, almost from time immemorial, between the Lodges and Commanderies in this State and throughout the world. If it is *unmasonic* for a Lodge to participate with a Commandery in the solemn ceremonies of depositing the evergreen in the grave of a deceased brother, can it be Masonic to meet together upon festive occasions as Lodges and Commanderies ? I think not ; let us be consistent. I, therefore, feel it my duty as G. Commander, however unpleasant it may be to my own personal feelings, to decline to grant the permission asked for, and to lay my interdict upon your appearing on the occasion named. The responsibility for this unpleasant result, the suspension of fraternal intimacy between those who have heretofore been so closely united, does not lie with the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and I sincerely trust that the offensive rule referred to will soon be repealed, and that the Templars and Master Masons may be permitted to renew their ancient and fraternal relations without interference from ignorant and narrow-minded bigots, come they from Lodge or Commandery. I trust that it is unnecessary for me to say that by this refusal no discourtesy is intended towards either Hanselmaun Commandery or Mt. Washington Lodge, nor to any of the individual members of those bodies.

The meaning of the resolution is perfectly clear ; a similar rule prevails in many Grand Jurisdictions. We doubt if it was ever intended by the Grand Lodge of Ohio to prevent a Masonic Lodge attending the funeral of a brother with an escort of Templars. Such sensitiveness, if that is not too dignified a name for it, seems hardly called for. The construction placed upon the Grand Lodge rule by the Grand Commander is certainly forced, and disagreeably so. Is the spirit of the paragraph, quoted from the Grand Commander's letter, Masonic or courteous ? "Ignorant and narrow-minded bigots !" "Offensive, unfraternal, discourteous and unmasonic !" Is there any justification for the use of such language ? Is there any logic in the position of the Grand Commander ? The Grand Commander insists upon exacting "from every branch of that (Masonic) system those fraternal courtesies and amenities which should exist between regular Masonic bodies." Where are these courtesies and amenities displayed in connection with this matter ?

The Grand Commander visited New Orleans to attend the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, he says :

The generous, princely liberality and hospitality of the Knights of New Orleans and Louisiana, and of the citizens generally, was boundless beyond description. Both the initiated and the profane, without distinction, vied with each other in welcoming the hosts from the chilly North to the warm hospitality of their beautiful city of the Sunny South. For four days and nights there was one continuous round of *fetes* and entertainments. It was an occasion long to be remembered, and those who were fortunate enough to be there will always preserve the most pleasant recollections of the Knightly hospitalities of the valiant chevaliers of New Orleans on this memorable occasion. It must be admitted, however, that these overflowing hospitalities and festivities seriously interfered with the transaction of the business of the G. Encampment.

He is opposed to the law of the Grand Encampment, that the loss of a leg or arm by a petitioner, disqualifies him from receiving the Orders of Knighthood, and considers it a relic of the dark ages.

He declined a réelection.

The Report on Correspondence is presented by Sir Wm. M. Cunningham. He believes that the correspondence reports should appear in the body of the proceedings, and should be read and adopted or rejected, or if not read, ordered to be printed for further consideration. These reports usually represent the views of the writer, and are not intended to present those of the Grand Body. Discussion among the assembled Knights of the points made in a review containing anything like criticism on the proceedings of other Grand Commanderies, would be interminable, the cause of more tiresome and unprofitable speech-making and wrangling, than the regular business of the Grand Commandery multiplied a hundred times. The Correspondence Report is something entirely apart from the business of the Grand Body. It is intended to convey information. The Grand Body is not responsible for the views advocated therein, and there is no reason why it should be held to such accountability.

It is more convenient, and it seems to us more fitting, that the report should have a place for itself apart from the proceedings in the appendix.

Sir Knight Cunningham is entitled to our acknowledgement for his complimentary notice of our report of last year. We are glad to notice that he, under the head of Mississippi, coincides with us in our opinion of the parade of Kosciusco Commandery as escort to the androgynous Order of Eastern Star.

West Virginia was recognized by the Grand Commandery of Ohio. Biographical notices of Grand Commander Enoch T. Carson, and Past Grand Commander Kent Jarvis, are published in the appendix.

Charles C. Kiefer, Dayton, Grand Commander; James Nesbitt, Troy (re-elected), Grand Recorder; Enoch T. Carson, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Twenty-second Annual Conclave at Pittsburg, May 25th, 1875; John H. Dusenberry, Grand Commander; 40 Commanderies out of 53 represented; session, three days.

Death has been busy in the ranks of Philadelphia Knighthood and has chosen his prey from among the noblest and best. The decease of E. Sir Nathan Smith, Past Grand Captain General, E. Sir and Rev. Robert H. Pattison, D. D., Grand Prelate, E. Sir Samuel H. Perkins, Past Grand Generalissimo, and Sir A. E. Ames, Representative of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, near that of Minnesota, are announced.

The Grand Commander observes that past experiences fully prove the wisdom of his predecessors in placing the Commanderies in Divisions, and assigning to each a Grand or Past Grand Officer as a Division Commander

Two dispensations to organize new Commanderies were issued. One was upon a petition signed by eighty Knights of Philadelphia, who have declared their intention of making a mounted Commandery. The Grand Commander thinks this body will add much to the *esprit de corps* of the Order in his jurisdiction. He had refused to grant dispensations upon five applications to receive or ballot on petitions out of the regular order. He doubted his right to issue them. Of the late Triennial he says:

"The proceedings of the Grand Encampment was not conducted with that Knightly decorum which is expected from its members. There was no exemplification of the work of the Order, which is to be regretted, as from that source alone is it to be expected to become uniform in all States. There appeared to be a general desire to postpone action on all matters appertaining to the general government of its Subordinates. But, toward its closing sessions, better judgment began to prevail, and all matters were decided, we trust, for the best interests of Ohio." * * * * "The Sir Knights of Louisiana, for their cordial welcome and Knightly courtesy, and unbounded hospitality to their visiting fraters, have engraven upon the hearts of all Sir Knights who visited them, a memorial that only death can obliterate." On the subject of parades, he observes:

I have become fully convinced that parades during the sessions of grand bodies, produce an entirely different result than that for which they are intended. It is impossible for the officers to maintain that necessary discipline over their command while they are performing the double duty of attending the meetings of the Grand Commandery, and providing amusement and instruction for those under their orders. So great has become the dissatisfaction, that often, when the hour designated in the orders of the Grand Commandery arrives for parade, the Commandery has become demoralized, the members unfit for duty, and after a short march they drop from the lines, to that extent, that long before the line arrives at the place for dismissal, the Commandery is reduced to a corporal's guard. This view of the case was strongly presented during the inspection and review of the Grand Encampment at New Orleans. The delegation from this State participating in Friday's review, was so greatly reduced by desertion from the ranks, that barely sufficient numbers remained with the banner to creditably salute it upon dismissal. This action has received severe criticism in the "Souvenir" of the occasion, published by J. Curtis Waldo. Our State received most favorable notice up to the time of desertion. This should not be wholly chargeable to the members participating in a parade; for it is often caused by the desire of the committee to whom is entrusted the duty of planning the line of march, they being persuaded to so lengthen it, that it requires a man with an iron constitution or a professional walker to accomplish the feat. Many of these results would be obviated if the committee would so plan their routes, that the distance marched would be short, and only upon streets favorable, thereby lessening the fatiguing effects. Very few of the Order are able to bear the fatigue of a three or five-mile march. If these parades are for the purpose of showing to the profane our uniform, they will assemble upon the route selected, thus dividing the labor. If for improvement in drill, it can best be accomplished in the drill-room. If we must have parades, let them occur at a time when that is the sole order of the day, and by assembling the Commanderies by divisions, then with undivided interests, we may accomplish the desired result.

A Past Grand Commander's jewel was voted to Grand Commander Dusenberry.

The Committee on Grievances, on the complaint of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey concerning the action of Commandery No. 19 of Pennsylvania in receiving the application of, and conferring the orders on a resi-

dent of the jurisdiction of Commandery No. 9 of New Jersey, reported that the act was not done with any intention of disrespect or idea of invading the jurisdiction of the R. E. Grand Commandery of New Jersey, and that they had the assurance that the two Commanderies had settled the difficulty in an amicable and Knightly spirit.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

"WHEREAS, The Centennial Anniversary of the Independence of our country occurs in the year 1876, and it being the intention of its people to celebrate so important an event by congregating in our State citizens from the world at large, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this body deem it an auspicious time in which to call together the Christian Knighthood of the world, and that this Grand Body requests the Grand Encampment of the United States to unite with this Grand Commandery, for the furtherance of this object.

Resolved, That a committee of thirteen members of this Grand Commandery shall be appointed by its Grand Commander, with authority to issue invitations, and to make necessary arrangements to meet in the city of Philadelphia, at the Annual Grand Conclave of that year ; said committee to have authority to appoint such additional committees as they may deem necessary."

Five thousand dollars was appropriated by the Grand Commandery for the purpose indicated in the above resolutions, and the subordinate commanderies were authorized to assess a sum equivalent to one dollar for each member for the current year. Three hundred dollars were appropriated for the use of the Grand Commander during the festivities.

M. E. Sir J. H. Hopkins, Grand Master of the United States, with a select number of members of the Grand Commandery, exemplified the work of the orders of Knighthood before the Grand Commandery. During the session the Knights assembled for inspection, review and parade. The installation of the officers elect was public, and an excellent address was delivered by R. E. Sir Charles Kingston. Sir Pearson Church succeeds M. E. Sir J. H. Hopkins, as Chairman of the Correspondence Committee.

Under the head of Kentucky he says :

After the final close of the Grand Commandery the inevitable " Banquet and Hop " took place, given in their honor by the Sir Knights of Cynthiana.

These " Hops " are becoming so universal that we suggest there be added to the list of appointed officers of a Grand Commandery a " Professor of Saltatory Accomplishments."

The *locum tenens* of that office would certainly find favor in the eyes of " fair ladies and brave men," at least for the time being.

The report of Louisiana for 1874, we regret to notice was not received by the Correspondence Committee of Pennsylvania. It was not the fault of our efficient Grand Recorder.

On the question of physical qualifications of candidates for the Orders of Knighthood, he observes under the head of Ohio :

Referring to a decision he made in 1872, that a Royal Arch Mason having lost an arm or leg is, nevertheless, eligible for the Orders of Christian Knighthood, he says :

" I am pleased to note the subject has given rise to considerable discussion, *pro and con*, and I am encouraged to believe that progress has been

made towards having this disgraceful, barbaric rule blotted from every branch of the Masonic Order."

He further says that the discussion of the subject means its inevitable destruction, for it cannot withstand the test of discussion in the light of civilized, enlightened Christian truth. We regret we cannot agree with our Eminent Frater on this subject. We think that after a candidate has received the first degree or order in any one branch he ought not to be disqualified, for physical reasons only, from finishing that particular series but he must stop there. This is certainly as far as it is possible to go without violating the unwritten, which is oftentimes stronger than the written, law of the Order. The ancient landmarks of Masonry, with their symbolic and, if you please, quaint origin and meaning, are what has kept Masonry pure, strong, honorable, able to endure the assaults of enemies, the lapse of ages and the consequent change of manners and customs of the people. The universality of Masonry, knowing neither latitude nor longitude, neither religion nor language, no aristocracy, nor democracy, would soon be destroyed if those ancient rules and regulations were once permitted to be innovated upon, and the beauty, symmetry, system and strength be destroyed forever. We hope such a calamity may not occur, at least in our time.

Under the head of Virginia he remarks as follows, on the subject of non-affiliation :

In answer to the question "Can a Templar hold his membership if he is non-affiliated with a Chapter and Blue Lodge?" he cites the following resolution of the Grand Commandery of 1863: "That it is not in accordance with our duty to the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter to allow a non-affiliated Mason to join a Commandery and continue membership during non-affiliation in those bodies." And in answer to the question, "Has a Commander the right to allow a non-affiliated Templar to visit his command?" he says: "The Eminent Commander has such right, no member of his command objecting."

The above cited resolution is correct in principle, in morals, ethics, good manners, and Christian charity. If it is not the law everywhere, all we have to say is, "it ought to be." We do not like non-affiliates of any kind. They are like the drones in a hive of bees. A man has no right to become or be a Mason or Knight, simply for the purpose of being placed in possession of the esoteric knowledge of the Order, wearing Masonic jewelry (to which latter, by the way, we have always been opposed), or being enabled to say to the world, "I am a Mason," and never contributing anything or adding efficiency to the Order, or setting an example of zeal to others in maintaining its dignity and worth.

Sir Knight Churches' first report is courteous, able and very well written.

Charles H. Kingston, Philadelphia, Grand Commander; Charles E. Meyer, Philadelphia (re-elected), Grand Recorder; Pearson Church, Meadville, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

TENNESSEE.

Thirteenth Annual Conclave at Chattanooga, May 6th, 1875; Martin Boyte Howell, Grand Commander; 12 out of 14 Commanderies represented; session, two days. The Grand Commander had issued one dispensation for a new Commandery. We find the following in the Grand Commander's address :

The calls upon me for official action and decision have not been numerous, and the inquiries have been, in nearly every instance, for instructions as to modes of procedure, which were either then, or have been since, definitely

determined by express edicts of the Grand Encampment. Their enumeration would effect no good purpose, and I, therefore, pass them without further mention. A case from Nashville Commandery, however, demands more particular notice. Charges had been regularly preferred against a member of that Commandery, for grave offenses; the evidence had been taken by a properly organized Commission, and he had been notified to appear on a day fixed for his trial. When the time arrived, the Eminent Commander was absent from the city, and his position was filled by the Generalissimo. The by-laws of Nashville Commandery require that a quorum for the trial of charges against a Knight shall consist of a majority of the resident members. On this occasion, less than this majority was present. The by-laws also require that a vote of two-thirds of those present shall be necessary to expel. The Commandery proceeded with the trial, the Knight was found guilty, and by the vote of a majority less than two-thirds of those present, he was declared expelled. Upon the return of the Eminent Commander, being informed of these facts, he addressed me a communication, a copy of which is filed with this report, asking what the effect of the action of the Commandery was, and, if illegal, its effect upon the status of the Knight under charges. I decided that in consequence of the failure to comply with the requirements of the by-laws, the so-called trial was a nullity, and not to be regarded; that it would be necessary to give new notice to the defendant, and proceed with the trial without reference to the previous meeting.

The Grand Commander recommends the adoption of a Code of Trial for the Commanderies of his jurisdiction, and also suggests that a uniform Code of By-laws for the government of Subordinate Commanderies as a necessity.

He says:

"Templar Masonry in Tennessee is undisturbed by dissention, moving steadily forward, increasing in numbers as fast as is desirable, and faithfully accomplishing the purposes of its organization."

Of the Templar gathering in New Orleans on the occasion of the Triennial, he observes:

How grand was the gathering of Templars from all over the Union, every State being represented, from Maine to Texas, and from Oregon to Florida, and every Territory in which a Commandery exists; the magnitude and extent of the arrangements made by our fraters of Louisiana for the comfort and pleasure of their guests; the magnificence of the public parades; the splendor of the receptions and banquets; the profuseness of hospitality on the part of the people of New Orleans; the warm welcome everywhere awaiting the stranger Knight; all these, and much more, have been told and written many times, and are, doubtless, well known to you. It would not be appropriate now to enlarge upon them, further than to say that the coming together of Templars from every State, representing every shade of opinion, and every phase of respectable society, their courteous commingling and fraternal intercourse, have already been productive of social results that we may well gratefully consider. Because we are Templars we should be the better citizens, and heartily foster and encourage all that makes us so. If it be our special duty to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, minister to the sick, protect the weak, and shield the innocent, it is in the same manner incumbent upon us to lend a helping hand to remove all asperities, wipe out prejudices, and promote friendship and good will. In union is strength. In the train of discord must follow the distress of innocent maidens, the tears of helpless orphans, and the lament of destitute widows.

The friendships begun at New Orleans will be lasting. The impressions formed there, in many instances so different from previous conceptions,

will influence motives and actions throughout this generation. In these respects, beyond question, this Triennial Session had great significance, and accomplished noble results.

With reference to the proceedings of the Grand Encampment, Sir Knight Howell says :

The Committee on Ritual, appointed at Baltimore, were not prepared to make a report, and the determination of all questions relating thereto was postponed for another three years. This was specially disappointing to the Committee appointed upon that subject at our last Annual Conclave. They knew that it had been ordered that "the Ritual, as promulgated by the Grand Encampment, cannot be altered or abridged by the Grand Master, Grand Commander, or Grand Commandery," and the three members of the Committee who were present had confidently hoped to receive such instructions as could be reported by them to this Grand Conclave. No Ritual having been promulgated, it only remains for us to do what we believe to be right, until the next Triennial Session, to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1877.

A charter for a new Commandery was granted. A form of public worship for Knights Templar, prepared and published by Sir George C. Conner, was adopted by the Grand Commandery "to be used whenever such services are deemed desirable."

There is no report on correspondence.

On the morning of the 6th, the Commanderies formed in line for inspection and review, and on the conclusion of the military exercises, the entire body proceeded to the Presbyterian Church, where they engaged in divine worship. An address was delivered by E. Sir James D. Richardson, which we regret to note, was not furnished by the orator, for publication, although a copy had been requested. The Grand Recorder speaks of the address as "replete with instruction, elegance and beauty." A dress parade took place in the evening, and later a banquet was disposed of. On the 7th, a competitive drill took place, for a silver cup, offered by Lookout Commandery; three Commanderies entered the list, and Nashville No. 1, received the prize.

Henry Martin Aiken, Knoxville, Grand Commander; Martin Boyte Howell, Nashville, Grand Recorder; no Correspondence Committee.

TEXAS.

Annual Conclave at Houston, January 27th, 1875; B. B. Richardson, Grand Commander; seven out of nine Commanderies represented; session, three days.

The following statement by the Grand Commander affords opportunity to congratulate the Knights of Texas on the healthy condition of the Orders in the Lone Star State :

The report which I am about to render, of my official acts during the term of office accorded to me by your kindly suffrages, will be very brief; nothing of any importance, sufficiently great to claim your special attention, has occurred during that period; no question of Templar Jurisprudence has been submitted for my decision; nor has there occurred, in the

machinery of this Grand Jurisdiction, the slightest jar to mar the harmony thereof.

The Grand Commander announced the appointment of Sir Richard Lambert as Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Texas for Louisiana.

Of the convocation of Knights in New Orleans during the last session of the Grand Encampment, our R. E. Frater says :

The greater part of the time spent in New Orleans was devoted to visiting, feasting and merry-making, which, while it added largely to the pleasure of the visit, and will undoubtedly do much to restore the friendly feelings of former years between the different sections of our common country, yet, in my humble opinion, will not advance the cause of Templarism, or promote the ends for which it was instituted.

The hospitalities of the Templars of Louisiana were, indeed, princely, and will long be remembered by all who had the pleasure of partaking of them.

The death of Past Grand Commander Peter W. Gray, is announced in the following language :

The true and courteous Knight, the eminent jurist, the wise legislator, the faithful friend, the devoted Mason and sincere Christian, passed from labor to rest, leaving behind that " which is rather to be chosen than great riches, a good name."

The Grand Commander thinks that for the advancement of the interests of Knighthood, the distance between Subordinate Commanderies as fixed by regulation should be lessened. That distance is now one hundred miles. He believes that it should be reduced to 50 or 75.

The following from the report of the committee on Grand Officer's Reports, referring to a part of the Grand Commander's address, quoted by us strikes us as something odd :

Your committee note the remarks of the R. E. Grand Commander on the subject of the Grand Triennial Conclave of the R. E. Grand Encampment at New Orleans. The freedom with which this committee might feel at liberty to endorse these remarks, or otherwise criticise the action of said Grand Body, or the unbounded courtesies of which its composition were the recipients, is equalled only by their utter ignorance of the details of that meeting, they not having had the pleasure of being in attendance upon that occasion, and their only information on the subject, aside from what is contained in said address, being the statements of parties, *of whose ability to give coherent accounts of the occasion this committee have serious doubts.* The committee, therefore, respectfully accept *nem con*, the conclusions of the R. E. Grand Commander, who, being there, ought certainly to be esteemed fully qualified to pass upon the action and ceremonies of that occasion.

The italics are ours. What was the matter ?

Sir George R. Fearn, having been appointed Grand Representative of Mississippi at the Grand Commandery of Texas, and he being a resident of Mississippi and elected Eminent Commander of a Commandery there, the question arose as to whether his credentials should be accepted. The matter was brought to the attention of the Grand Commandery in the Grand Commander's address, and was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who reported :

That the credentials are in due form. We know of no law or usage to prevent the appointment by a Grand Commandery of one of its own members as a Grand Representative to a sister Grand Commandery. It is altogether a matter of taste and choice on the part of the Grand Body making the appointment. The system is entirely for the promotion of knightly courtesy and comity between the several Grand Commanderies. We therefore recommend the acceptance of the credentials and the reception of the Representative with the honors attached to his position.

The recommendation was approved.

The Grand Commandery of Texas is no longer a hard money institution. The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, "That hereafter all dues to 'his Grand Commandery be paid in U. S. Currency."

Article V, of the Constitution, fixing the distance of 100 miles between Subordinate Commanderies, was amended by substituting the word "fifty."

A special conclave was held at Austin, June 4th, 1875, to decide upon the application for a new Commandery to be established at Sherman or Dennison. The Grand Commander stated that he had received applications from both places on the same day, and by the same mail, and as the opportunity offered to call the Grand Commandery together, he deemed it best to leave the matter to the Grand Commandery. We presume that the fifty mile rule interfered with the granting of a dispensation to both places. The subject was referred to a committee, and a unanimous report was made, favoring the postponement of any action till the next annual conclave.

Although the Grand Recorder reported in behalf of the correspondence committee, that the report was nearly completed, and asked that the same when completed, be published with the proceedings; and although the Grand Commandery acquiesced, we find no report on foreign correspondence. We find the following note by the Grand Recorder with reference to this matter :

NOTE.—After waiting five months after the close of the Annual Grand Conclave, for the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, the Grand Recorder is reluctantly compelled to publish the proceedings without it. The Proceedings of other Grand Commanderies, as received, were transmitted promptly to Sir Knight P. C. Tucker, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

E. G. Bowen, Dallas, Grand Commander; Robert Brewster, Houston, (re-elected) Grand Recorder; James Masterson, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

VIRGINIA.

Annual Conclave at Petersburg, October 18th, 1875; William B. Isaacs, Grand Commander; nine out of fourteen Commanderies represented; session, two days. The Grand Commander says :

It must be as great a source of pleasure to every member to witness, as

it is a source of pride to me to extend my hearty congratulations to you on the *esprit du corps* and enthusiasm prevailing in the Order throughout our Jurisdiction.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That any Commandery in this Jurisdiction desiring to adopt what is known as the "Black Uniform," is hereby authorized by this Grand Commandery so to do.

The Commandery was dismissed on motion. We have always supposed that motions to adjourn were out of order in bodies claiming to be Masonic. Sir James A. Scott again presents the correspondence report.

Under the head of Connecticut we find the following :

In the proceedings, which, we should judge, were conducted with great decorum and courtesy, we notice one of the conclusions arrived at by the "Committee on Jurisprudence," to which, although sanctioned by a Body for which we have the greatest respect, we can never agree. It is as follows : "That the suspension or expulsion of a Sir Knight from his Lodge or Chapter does not in itself suspend or expel him from his Commandery, but it deprives him of all rights, benefits and privileges therein, and all intercourse with the Order while under such disabilities; that striking a Sir Knight from the roll of his Lodge or Chapter, for non-payment of dues, or from any other cause, is not equivalent to such suspension or expulsion, and does not effect his standing in the Commandery; and it is only when a striking from the roll follows a previous suspension or expulsion for some Masonic offence, that it entails any disability upon a Sir Knight." We have repeatedly expressed the opinion in these reports, and we assert it again, that the Blue Lodge is the "Corner Stone," and he who weakens the foundation of his Masonic edifice cannot be faithful to the superstructure.

Considering the relative position of Louisiana and Virginia toward the close of 1874, it affords us very great pleasure to transfer the body of our Virginia fraters' review of Louisiana to this report. The courtesy manifested by Sir Knight Scott deserves to be appreciated by the Louisiana Knights, and we could not do him justice without copying all he has said. We thank him very heartily, and feel authorized to do so in the name of the body of Louisiana Templars. While such a spirit prevails in our Order as is displayed by him in this instance, there can be no doubt of its influence for good :

The address of the Grand Commander, after alluding to his official acts, is chiefly taken up with an interesting account of the meeting of the Grand Encampment, and is a vivid picture of that memorable occasion—an occasion in which Louisiana made for herself a name never to be forgotten by Templars. The recollection of the generous hospitality, and cordial welcome of our Fraters of the Crescent City is proudly cherished by those Templars from Virginia who participated in the scenes so admirably described by Grand Commander Hornor, and the splendid display made by the Order will ever be a source of deep gratitude to the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, for the duties were onerous, and but comparatively a small body had to bear the burden. We will not attempt a description of the event, nor will we repeat that given by Grand Commander Hornor, for we know right well that every Templar in the country has seen and read the details in full. We regret the remarks of the Grand Commander under the head of "Virginia," and while we have no disposition to meddle in the matter, we must be permitted to say that our Grand Commander is as incapable of charging a *want of hospitality* as Grand Commander Hornor is of display-

ing it. Sir Isaacs is able to take care of himself and we know that Sir Horner is equally so, and we would only just suggest that they let the subject alone. If Sir Horner's letter was unjustly treated, he and his command were splendidly vindicated, and no one feels a more glowing sense of pride at the great success of the meeting, of the Grand Encampment at New Orleans than Sir Isaacs. The Report on Correspondence is an able, courteous and interesting review of twenty-seven Grand Commanderies, by Sir William R. Whitaker, and right well does he wear the mantle which fell upon him as Sir Horner ascended to the Grand East. His allusions to Virginia are very kind, and notwithstanding he criticises the address of our Grand Commander, he does it in the right spirit, and in a manner worthy a Templar—he catches us in a slight mistake, for which we owe him one—and concludes by saying “Louisiana Knighthood entertains the liveliest regard for the Templars of Virginia, and will be glad to manifest it whenever and wherever there is opportunity to do so;” to which we reply, we believe you. His allusions to us are very gratifying, and we feel highly honored. You see, Sir Whitaker, our farewell was not a good-bye. Our Grand Commander did not keep his word, and here we are, nearly midnight, driving our pen with lightning speed to be ready for our Annual Assembly, which takes place in a few days. So, adieu.

We very much regret that Sir Knight Scott has abandoned the corps of reporters. We cannot afford to spare his skillful pen, his keen discrimination, his Knightly courtesy, and thorough acquaintance with Masonic and Templar Jurisprudence. He introduces V. E. Sir William E. Tanner, his successor, very gracefully. If Sir Knight Tanner needed an indorser, Virginia could not furnish a better.

R. E. Withers, Alexandria, Grand Commander; John Dove (re-elected), Grand Recorder; Wm. E. Tanner, Richmond, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

WISCONSIN.

Seventeenth annual conclave at Milwaukee, October 5th, 1875; Carlos P. Whitford, Grand Commander; eleven out of twelve Cammanderies represented; session, two days.

The Grand Commander recommends the appointment of an Inspector-General to visit the subordinates, and instruct the commanderies in ritual and drill, the expense for such service to be paid by the subordinates visited, but in no case to exceed travelling expenses.

Under the law, as it now stands, the following suggestion is worthy of consideration in all our jurisdictions:

I would also suggest that the Grand Recorder be instructed to retain in his office, a copy of said Charter, as well as all Charters hereafter issued, so that in case a Charter is destroyed an exact duplicate can readily be obtained.

A Knight was granted a demit on payment of his dues. He did not pay. He never asked for his certificate of demit. It was not made out. He wished to pay and continue his connection with the Commandery.

Question.—Does the vote taken affect his standing?

Answer.—A demit being the right of every Sir Knight in good standing, clear of the books, the vote was a mere surplussage, and did not in any way

alter the status of the subject of the vote. That unless the Sir Knight asks for the dimit, the vote gives the Commandery no right to force it upon him.

The Grand Commander decided that charges ought to be preferred against a Knight refusing to comply with an order to appear at the conclave of a Commandery in uniform, but he made the following decision which seems hardly consistent with the foregoing :

July 16th, 1874, I received from the Recorder of Wisconsin Commandery, No. 1, a copy of By-Laws for approval. July 20th, I returned the same, approving of all except the following :

Section 17.—Every member of this Commandery shall, within sixty days after becoming such, arm, equip and uniform himself according to the regulations of the Grand Encampment of the United States, unless prevented by causes beyond his control, and in default thereof shall not, without the previous unanimous consent of the Commandery, be allowed to vote or sit therein.

This section was not approved, for the reason that I believed that it was contrary to the spirit of the Order, and that the theory depriving a Sir Knight in good standing of the right to vote, without due notice and trial, was in conflict with the principles of the magnanimous Orders of Knighthood.

The Grand Commander suggested the appointment of a committee to draft a Code for Trials to be submitted to the Grand Body. Sir Knight Whitford visited New Orleans on the occasion of the assembly of the Grand Encampment. He says:

Never were pilgrims welcomed and entertained more cordially. All with whom we came in contact seemed to vie with each other to see who could show us the most attention, or do the most for our happiness.

I would be doing great injustice to those highly esteemed and courteous Fraters of Louisiana, did I not report the kind hospitality, generosity, and Knightly courtesy extended to all the Templars assembled at that time, in the queen city of the South.

To those noble Knights who received us so courteously and arranged for our accommodation, the Knights of Wisconsin are under lasting obligations.

On the proceedings of the Grand Encampment on the uniform question, his views coincide pretty nearly with those promulgated by Grand Commander Hornor in our Grand Body last year. We give them in full :

The first action of the Grand Encampment at New Orleans, upon this subject was to approve General Order, No. 3, of 1871.

This could not well be avoided. The action of Grand Master Fellows in issuing this order was so clearly within the letter of the law, that to do otherwise would have been preposterous.

The second move was to divest the Grand Master of all authority upon this subject, making no provision for its exercise anywhere else, and thus surrendering all control of the matter of enforcing a uniform costume. Not being satisfied with this, a resolution was adopted, allowing all Commanderies now wearing a black costume to continue its use, and still another, that in any State where the black costume is in use, the Grand Commandery thereof may permit any Commandery in its jurisdiction to adopt and wear the same.

By this action of the Grand Encampment, it has, in my opinion, surrendered all authority upon this subject, and I also as firmly believe, it will never attempt to acquire the control it has thus surrendered.

I therefore recommend, that this Grand Commandery take prompt and decisive action upon this subject, and define in language which cannot be misunderstood, what the uniform of a Sir Knight in this jurisdiction shall be. I am proud to say that the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin has always obeyed the laws and edicts of the Grand Encampment in this, as well as in all other matters. But the Grand Encampment, having thrown up its authority and surrendered its control of the costume we should wear, it behooves this Grand Body to act immediately and wisely upon this subject, and retain the authority to prescribe and enforce the use of a uniform costume. This can be easily accomplished now. It may be more difficult hereafter.

The address of the Grand Commander gives ample evidence of his strict and faithful attention to the duties of his exalted position. The address itself is a very practical and clearly written document. The inspection of the different Commanderies of the State had been assigned to the first four officers of the Grand Body, and their reports give evidences of a careful attention to this duty.

The suggestion of the Grand Commander that duplicates of all Charters issued by the Grand Commandery should be prepared by the Grand Recorder and retained in his office, was adopted by the Grand Commandery.

The following decisions of the Grand Commander, among others, were re-stated as here given by the Committee on Jurisprudence, and approved by the Grand Commandery :

First—Every member of a Commandery, in good standing, and clear from all charges on the books, is entitled to a discharge from his Commandery.

Second—An application for a discharge must be made in open Commandery at a regular Conclave, by the applicant appearing in person and requesting it, or in a written communication signed by the applicant's own hand.

Third—No charges appearing against the applicant, his discharge must be granted, and the record so made on the books of the Commandery. No vote of the Commandery is necessary.

Fourth—The evidence of discharge is the *record* of the Commandery. A certificate of discharge (or dimit) may, and should be given to the Sir Knight for his convenience, but this is only a certified copy of the record of the Commandery, and its possession by the Sir Knight is by no means necessary to substantiate the record, or to complete the action of the Commandery.

The Committee favored the recommendation of the Grand Commander as to the appointment of an Inspector General, and the Grand Commandery acted accordingly.

A Committee was appointed on uniform. Their report is full and was adopted. It adds somewhat to the so-called regulation uniform in the matter of trimmings, and in fact is not unlike the uniform adopted by our Grand Commandery last year.

The Correspondence report is again presented by Sir John W. Woodhull. The Grand Commander of California, 1875, having decided that the pro-

ceedings of a Commandery in stated conclave were legal, there being eleven Knights Templar present, only seven of whom were members of the Commandery, the principal officers being included in the number, our frater of Wisconsin says, and it seems to us very sensibly :

If the transactions of this Commandery were legal with seven members present, why not with five, or three, or even one? The fact of less than nine members being authorized to transact business at a stated Conclave, leaves a very wide loop-hole for criticism, for if less than nine members can legally transact business, the question immediately arises, how few members need to be present to make the Conclave a legal one for the transaction of business. Suppose, for instance, that it is the stated Conclave for the election of officers, and the Commander is present with the Charter and two or three, or even four of his principal officers, and the balance are not members, would the election be a legal one? And again, suppose that at a stated Conclave as described, the few present see fit to appropriate money for some purpose, no matter what, would the action be legal? If legal with four or five, why not with two? If this Conclave was a legal one, candidates could have been elected, and only seven members present to vote, and if seven members can elect candidates, why not a less number.

He approves the resolution of the Illinois Jurisprudence Committee, 1874, declaring it to be illegal to confer the Order of the Red Cross upon more than one candidate at the same time. We see no reason for such a regulation. Two or more candidates may take the Order at the same time without diminishing in the slightest degree the solemnity and effectiveness of the ceremony. To confer the Order properly is an expensive matter, and this fact is worth taking into consideration.

Under the head of Louisiana we find the following, and cannot help quoting it in full :

The address of Grand Commander Hornor is an able one. He alludes in feeling terms to the death of the illustrious ones of his jurisdiction, who have been clothed in the habiliments for a last and eternal rest. He gives a full report of the celebration of St. John's Day, in New Orleans, of the Field Encampment at Biloxi, during the month of August, and the reception of the Grand Encampment, December 1st. Also a full review of the matter of costume, as presented by the Joseph's Coat sort of uniform on exhibition during the session of the Grand Encampment, and urges upon his own Grand Commandery, the necessity that now exists for every State Grand Commandery to immediately take steps to "lay down the law," on this subject for the government of its own Commanderies.

On this subject we think he occupies the only tenable ground, viz : That the Grand Encampment having virtually surrendered their authority on this subject, the only possible way to avoid the calamity to good order and decency, which must necessarily follow such action, is for each Grand Commandery to immediately prescribe a uniform for its Sir Knights, and demand a strict adherence thereto. We are glad to state that the Grand Commandery acted upon the suggestions of R. E. Sir Hornor, and adopted a uniform; adhering as closely as practicable to the order of the Grand Encampment on this subject. The Grand Commander commences his address as follows: "In rendering to you an account of my stewardship for the past year, I find that I must rather appeal to what has been accomplished, then to describe it in words, and believe that the results have been generally satisfactory to you." For Sir Hornor to recount his stewardship for the year 1874, would require more time, and fill more volumes, than his Grand Commandery would be willing to publish; while to recount the "results obtained," would be beyond his power. The results are glorious beyond a description; words can give no adequate idea of them. They are

out of sight, or written upon the hearts of thousands of Sir Knights, with an impress as indelible as the consciousness of right and wrong, and they will live. Such results can never be obliterated; they are imperishable; and long after this R. E. Sir Knight, who was so instrumental in bringing about the glorious results, shall have paled, sickened, died, and all of him that is mortal, shall become as the dust; ay! when all of that noble band of Knights whose tramp was like that of an army, through the streets of the Crescent City, shall have laid aside their swords, doffed their trappings, and peacefully surrendered to the fiat of the Eternal, the results there attained, will live on, and never, no, never die.

It is worth a life of toil to see men meet, live and part, as did the visiting Sir Knights and the Sir Knights of New Orleans and her citizens.

From the North, South, East and West, from every State and Territory, were gathered men of all sentiments, opinions, and interests, to meet a welcome from the citizens of New Orleans, such as no tongue can tell or pen describe. All sectional differences, contesting interests or thoughts of the sad past were swept away by the whirlwind of welcomes from the thousands who greeted us on every hand. The humblest citizen seemed to vie with his more fortunate neighbor in extending courtesies and heart-felt welcome to their visitors; and to this there was no cessation. It was a continuous ovation, a scene of joy and happiness, a time when men met and parted as brothers, an hour such as can never be forgotten by those who participated therein. Friendships were formed which will be more lasting than life; a history written upon memory's pages which an eternity cannot obliterate; resolves of continued efforts, to ever persevere in maintaining a peace, which is fruitful with blessings to all, and a harbinger of the glorious results which must inevitably follow the efforts of this people to renew and enlarge their acquaintance with the whole country.

Thanks for the thought that brought forth this meeting, and to all who assisted in its perfect consummation, and especially to R. E. Sir Hornor, whose untiring labor made it such a grand success.

Sir Knight Woodhull will please accept our acknowledgments for his flattering notice of our last year's review. We can return the compliment with interest. His report deserves high praise. It is an excellent review of the doings of the Order, contains solid argument, and puts forth much excellent thought upon important topics.

Carlos P. Whitford, Beloit (re-elected), Grand Commander; John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee (re-elected), Grand Recorder, and (re-appointed) Chairman Correspondence Committee.

Courteously Submitted,

WM. R. WHITAKER,

For the Committee.

OFFICERS OF GRAND COMMANDERY.

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|------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| SIR BERRY RUSSELL..... | <i>R. E. Grand Commander,</i> | <i>New Orleans.</i> |
| SIR JOHN WILLIAM MADDEN.. | <i>V. E. D. Grand Commander,</i> | " " |
| SIR LORING T. MURDOCK..... | <i>E. Grand Generalissimo,</i> | " " |
| SIR SAM'L ALSTON..... | <i>E. Grand Captain General,</i> | " " |
| SIR JOHN Q. A. FELLOWS..... | <i>E. Grand Prelate,</i> | " " |
| SIR GEORGE H. BRAUGHN | <i>E. Grand Senior Warden,</i> | " " |
| SIR CLAUDIUS MAYO | <i>E. Grand Junior Warden,</i> | <i>Opelousas.</i> |
| SIR SAMUEL MAXXING TODD..... | <i>E. Grand Treasurer,</i> | <i>New Orleans.</i> |
| SIR E. E. ADAMS..... | <i>E. Grand Recorder,</i> | " " |
| SIR GEORGE SOULE..... | <i>E. Grand Standard Bearer,</i> | " " |
| SIR EDWARD BAKER..... | <i>E. Grand Sword Bearer,</i> | " " |
| SIR C. W. HOTCHKISS..... | <i>E. Grand Warder,</i> | " " |
| SIR J. W. MAGUIRE..... | <i>E. Grand Captain of the Guards,</i> | " " |

ANNUAL GRAND CONCLAVE OF 1877.

The next Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, will be held in Grand Lodge, Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Friday, February 16th, 1877, A. O. 759.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

SIRS JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE, P. G. C., AND A. HERO, JR.

TO GRAND RECORDERS :

I respectfully request the Grand Recorders of the various Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar to transmit to me, by separate mails, triplicate copies of their Proceedings, and the favor shall be reciprocated with due courtesy.

E. E. ADAMS,

Grand Recorder,

32 Carondelet Street, New Orleans.

